



MICHIGAN
CROP IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION™

2025/2026 MCI A Annual Report



Plant 
**Michigan
Certified
Seed**
For greater profit

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MICHIGAN CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

ON BEHALF OF THE MICHIGAN CROP IMPROVEMENT STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
WE ARE PLEASED TO SHARE THE 2025/2026 ANNUAL REPORT WITH YOU.
JANUARY 1, 2025 – DECEMBER 31, 2025 | C. JAMES PALMER, MANAGER

Cover photo by Tom Siler at North Star Seeds, Port Austin, Michigan

Manager's Address

Behind every number in this report are members, customers, and directors who rely on our staff to operate responsibly, deliver quality products, and provide excellent service. As the Manager, knowing the expectations helps me make the proper decisions to guide our team throughout the year. With stable guidance from our trusted Board of Directors, our team did an outstanding job of achieving our goal of becoming more efficient with reduced staff while expanding the services we provide.

When one of our long-time key employees, Chris Tiedje, retired in June, and our Office Manager Janet, pulled back to a reduced role, I knew this would provide a great challenge for our team. I was pleased with their responses. Our team met these hurdles and used them as opportunities to improve our systems, take on new responsibilities and showcase their talents to make this year a success for the Association. One of the true joys of my job is watching our people excel in the face of adversity by using their creativity and instincts to provide satisfaction to our customers. This year re-affirmed what I have said from day one, the strength of this organization rests on our people and making sure they do things the right way. We have a great team!

The accomplishments of our team in 2025 were significant across all areas of our business. In the lab, we streamlined log-in and read-out processes with barcodes and launched a new app that allows customers to access all their results in real time on a single spreadsheet. The field division fully deployed a new inspection system, enabling online applications, handheld data collection, and immediate report delivery. In the seed division, we introduced two new black bean varieties, a new pinto variety, and several new wheat lines. Kona black bean emerged as a standout, and we are eager to see what the coming year brings for all our new varieties. These improvements provide momentum and will catapult us into 2026.

In the pages of this report, we divulge an enormous amount of information about the occurrences at MCIA in 2025. There is information about staff, financial reports, scholarship winners, seed sales and much more. I encourage you to take some time to leaf through the report to learn more about what your Association is doing.

To summarize, 2025 showed the strength, creativity, and dedication of our team at every level. From lab innovations to field improvements and new seed varieties, we made significant progress while continuing to serve our members and customers with excellence. These accomplishments give us a springboard to move into 2026, ready to build on our successes, embrace new opportunities, and uphold the standards that define MCIA. Thank you for your trust, support, and for being part of this Association.

Best Regards,



C. JAMES PALMER
MANAGER, MCIA

Our Team

MCIA employees are an experienced and well-trained team focused on accomplishing the goals of the Association. Currently, our team consists of six full-time employees and numerous part-time staff. Below is a list of our full-time staff members arranged by date of hire:



C. JAMES PALMER

MANAGER (1995)

Jim became the Manager of MCIA in 2020. Under the direction of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association Board of Directors, Jim is responsible for the day-to-day decisions for the Association. He keeps the Board informed of pertinent information as necessary. Jim also develops budgets, identifies and reviews purchases, looks for new business opportunities, identifies promising seed varieties and manages seed multiplications.



JOYCE HIEBERT

LAB TECHNICIAN (2011)

Joyce's responsibilities include coordinating and performing all seed laboratory tests including sample log in, planting, reading out, TZ tests, purity tests and tag printing. Joyce prints tags and keeps the lab work procedures up to date. Joyce is also responsible for lab and tag billings.



LEE SILER

**SEED PLANT COORDINATOR/
QUALITY MANAGER (2018)**

Lee is responsible for directing and managing all quality aspects in the seed and organic food processing plant while maintaining compliance with all regulations for USDA, FDA and BRC. He oversees scheduling incoming and outgoing shipments of seed and food products. Lee also manages our warehouse staff.



LAUREN BOGI, R.S.T.

**SEED INSPECTION AND SEED
TESTING TECHNOLOGIST (2020)**

Lauren recently earned her Registered Seed Technologist Certification. This signifies her expertise in seed testing, analysis and quality control. Lauren performs planting and purity duties in the seed lab when needed. She is also responsible for the various field inspections including seed corn inspections as needed. Lauren also manages our website, keeping interactive documents and appropriate links current as well as posting relevant information and content for our members' benefit.



THOMAS SILER

**SEED PRODUCTION QUALITY
MANAGER (2022)**

Thomas is responsible for inspections of all seed crops, but especially focusing on seed corn. Thomas has a background in agriculture and holds a master's degree from MSU in Crop and Soil Science. Thomas is also very proficient in data management and is responsible for field applications, data collection and results reporting. Thomas is also responsible for the Non-Gmo testing in the lab.



JESSICA MIHLFELD

OFFICE MANAGER (2025)

Jessica is responsible for accounts payable, accounts receivable, cash receipts, invoices, statements, financial records, and processing certification applications. She has other office duties including answering phones and handling customer inquiries. Jessica is also responsible for royalty collection and royalty payment to our genetics suppliers.

Field Inspectors

The inspector list does not include corn inspectors

CENTRAL/SOUTHEAST MI

TOM SILER

2901 Jolly Rd.
Okemos, MI 48864
517-332-3546

CENTRAL MI

LAUREN BOGI

2901 Jolly Rd.
Okemos, MI 48864
517-332-3546

CENTRAL/NORTHERN MI

MIKAELA TEETER

6516 W. St. Charles Rd.
Alma, MI 48801
517-332-3546

CENTRAL MI

JOHN DURLING

12175 Beardslee Rd.
Perry, MI 48872
517-256-7272

SOUTHWEST MI

PHIL ANDERSON

17071 Cotherman Lake Rd.
Three Rivers, MI 49093
269-535-4465

THUMB AREA

ELIJAH STEENBERGH

6267 Brockway Rd.
Peck, MI 48466
810-304-3379

SAGINAW VALLEY AREA

DEB LEVASSEUR

2367 E. Parish Rd.
Kawkawlin, MI 48631
989-545-8733

Board of Directors

JEFF MARTUS

PRESIDENT

Industry Representative
Star of the West
Richville, MI

JEFF DREHER

VICE PRESIDENT

Upper Thumb Region
Palms, MI

TOBY BROWN

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Southwestern Region
Three Rivers, MI

DR. GEORGE SMITH

MSU REPRESENTATIVE

MSU, East Lansing, MI

MICHAEL PHILIP

MDARD REPRESENTATIVE

Michigan Department of Agriculture
and Rural Development
Lansing, MI

ALAN MOORE

Central Region
Elsie, MI

CARL WAGNER III

South East Region
Niles, MI

MATT LUTZ

Thumb Region
Sebewaing, MI

ALAN PETERS

Northern Region
Ida, MI

Financial Results

2025 was another strong year financially for the Association. MCIA finished the year with a positive net income of about \$88,000. Both the expenses and revenues were higher than in 2024. Increase in seed corn activities and additional research money distributed to MSU were the main drivers in the differences between the last two years. The Association is on good financial footing and poised for another solid year in 2026. Please find a summary of the MCIA finances printed below:

SCHEDULES OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES BY BUDGET CLASSIFICATION FOUNDATION SEED DIVISION | YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

	2025		2024	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
REVENUES				
Gross profit				
Barley	\$ 3,799	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,568	\$ 6,500
Kidney beans	178,054	190,000	261,908	191,000
Beans	211,174	232,000	206,658	132,700
Oats	11,497	16,000	16,364	13,000
Soybeans	1,900	3,000	1,968	1,500
Wheat	188,963	174,500	162,328	170,000
Chemical and bag cost of sales	(24,600)	10,000	6,088	-
Freight	(41,481)	(14,500)	(24,251)	(14,000)
Miscellaneous income	-	1,000	-	500
Sales discounts and inventory adjustments	(1,747)	(3,000)	(3,026)	(2,500)
	<u>527,559</u>	<u>612,000</u>	<u>631,605</u>	<u>498,700</u>
Gross profit				
Services				
Custom processing	116,886	130,000	164,799	107,000
Color sorter	27,594	33,000	35,298	39,000
Rogueing	1,250	-	-	-
Organic processing	18,073	25,000	32,729	20,000
Collection fees	7,732	-	3,071	40,000
Other	9,441	-	8,678	-
	<u>180,976</u>	<u>188,000</u>	<u>244,575</u>	<u>206,000</u>
Total service revenue				
Other income	57,704	2,000	14,250	2,000
Investment return, net	75,518	6,000	50,797	4,500
	<u>841,757</u>	<u>808,000</u>	<u>941,227</u>	<u>711,200</u>
TOTAL REVENUES				
EXPENSES				
Salaries and benefits	359,102	366,550	358,720	350,900
Payroll taxes	25,895	23,500	23,800	25,000
Training, workshops and meetings	3,640	6,500	7,059	6,000
Travel and vehicle	12,421	7,550	5,724	7,750
Telephone	2,059	2,500	2,352	2,700
Office supplies and postage	3,544	6,300	3,910	7,300
Maintenance and repairs	21,622	40,000	32,291	42,500
Rent	-	-	-	5,000
Warehouse supplies	7,678	8,500	11,102	9,000
Insurance	17,698	14,350	16,334	13,500
Utilities	18,774	23,400	17,289	23,900
Depreciation	113,534	120,000	115,616	119,200
Dues and subscriptions	6,555	4,000	6,341	4,000
Research	165,809	-	54,476	-
Professional services	30,808	23,450	16,787	24,000
Promotion and advertising	19,339	6,000	5,000	6,500
Directors' expenses	4,844	3,000	2,909	3,000
Miscellaneous	8,038	7,500	6,400	5,500
	<u>821,360</u>	<u>663,100</u>	<u>686,110</u>	<u>655,750</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES				
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 20,397</u>	<u>\$ 144,900</u>	<u>\$ 255,117</u>	<u>\$ 55,450</u>

No assurance is provided on the financial statements.
See independent accountant's compilation report.

SCHEDULES OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES BY BUDGET CLASSIFICATION
FIELD AND LAB SERVICES DIVISION | YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

	2025		2024	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
REVENUES				
Services				
Inspections and tags				
Wheat	\$ 52,694	\$ 36,500	\$ 38,637	\$ 40,500
Rye	4,735	3,700	4,443	1,600
Oats	3,222	3,450	3,869	3,800
Barley	1,628	1,100	1,136	1,700
Soybeans	64,189	55,700	55,565	68,000
Corn	720,285	685,000	662,742	731,500
Beans	8,339	11,550	12,084	7,200
Mulch	720	850	636	750
Other tags	64,501	47,000	48,193	45,500
IRM inspections	6,280	-	5,455	-
Testing	134,835	101,000	121,076	90,300
Total service revenue	1,061,428	945,850	953,836	990,850
Other income	2,628	2,000	5,780	2,000
Investment return, net	92,016	12,000	67,868	10,000
TOTAL REVENUES	1,156,072	959,850	1,027,484	1,002,850
EXPENSES				
Salaries and benefits	721,058	753,400	803,843	702,300
Payroll taxes	48,842	51,000	52,062	47,000
Training, workshops and meetings	6,257	14,000	17,376	13,500
Field inspections	90,456	81,250	80,921	80,250
Telephone	2,660	3,000	2,652	3,000
Office supplies and postage	6,958	8,100	7,462	13,100
Maintenance and repairs	14,547	21,600	14,867	22,100
Lab supplies	13,135	5,000	13,178	10,000
Outside lab testing	2,280	3,000	2,614	3,000
Seed outside labor	48	-	188	-
Tags	17,010	7,500	-	7,000
Insurance	17,696	17,700	16,334	13,500
Utilities	16,027	15,800	12,082	15,800
Depreciation	19,821	20,000	19,541	21,000
Dues and subscriptions	15,455	8,000	12,038	8,000
Professional services	26,336	26,400	17,603	28,000
Promotion and advertising	9,432	13,000	9,706	14,000
Directors' expenses	4,844	3,000	2,908	3,000
Bad Debt	71	-	-	1,000
Miscellaneous	14,998	11,000	11,966	10,750
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,047,931	1,062,750	1,097,341	1,016,300
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 108,141	\$ (102,900)	\$ (69,857)	\$ (13,450)

No assurance is provided on the financial statements.
See independent accountant's compilation report.

Current Services to Assist Our Members

Field

- » Field inspection for Seed Certification.
- » Quality Assurance Inspections for brand marketing of seed.
- » Identity Preserved, OECD Certification, and Certified Noxious Weed Free Inspections.
- » Disease Inspection for dry beans and other crops.
- » Client designed, customized field inspections.
- » Pollen management inspections for hybrid seed corn.
- » Field Assessments used to directly manage pollen control for hybrid seed corn.
- » Pre-harvest services for seed corn.
- » In-field seed corn disease sampling and evaluation.

Seed Lab

- » Perform standard warm germination and purity tests.
- » Assess seed vigor with TZ, accelerated aging and cold tests.
- » Provide seed count, seed moisture and testing with seed treatments.
- » Herbicide trait verification and GMO testing.
- » Perform purity and noxious weed exams for international shipping.
- » Official ASL report of analysis for international shipping.
- » Perform varietal purity analysis for certification.
- » Perform extended cold test, saturated cold test and fast green for early plantings.

Seed and Processing

- » Provide quality foundation and parent seed stock for seed growers.
- » Provide custom processing services for seed, grain and feed.
- » Offer field rogueing services.
- » Our Processing Plant is Certified Organic and BRCGS Food Safety Certified.
- » Perform color sorting services to remove unwanted defects or contamination.
- » Repackage, warehouse and ship items for customers.

Facility Upgrades in 2025

- » Completed implementation of digitization of field inspections for all crops, these included applications, maps, and reporting to customers.
- » Installed touchless sink faucet in bathrooms.
- » Added “buffer room” in warehouse restroom to conform to BRC requirements.
- » Added new forklift with rotator and fork scales.
- » Focused on paper reduction by using electronic record keeping.
- » Transitioned lab records and results from paper to electronic format.
- » Upgraded programming to digital platform for all corn field inspection reports.
- » Updated website photos and information.
- » Updated software systems to improve lab flow and tag printing.
- » Updated to fiber optic line to improve connectivity.
- » Improved online field inspection application process for members
- » Redesigned field inspection and lab report layout to improve clarity and usability.
- » Implemented NRCS testing procedure cover crop program.



New forklift

2025 Scholarship Recipients

Michigan State University Scholarships

Each year MCIA awards 10-\$2000 scholarships to deserving MSU students who are studying programs with an emphasis in agriculture. The scholarships are intended to encourage a greater number of students to enter the field of agriculture. The 2025 recipients and the leaders of tomorrow are:

RYAN HENNE

NORTH BRANCH

BRIELLE HERNER

BAY CITY

EMMA KUHL

HANOVER

AUDREY MARTIN

BAY CITY

SYDNEY MASSERANT

NEWPORT

TORI MAYNARD

ELSIE

ANDREW MORR

SOUTH LYON

ELIJAH TERPENING

YALE

CADEN WADE

WHEATLAND, WY

MORGAN ZUREK

HURON COUNTY

Scott Judd Memorial Scholarships

The Scott Judd Scholarship was established in 2019/2020 to honor the long time MCIA Manager Randel H. Judd who lost his son to cancer at an early age. The applicants must attend Mason High School and be planning to attend MSU in a STEM or Ag related field. There are two recipients per year who receive \$1,000 scholarships. This scholarship continues for ten years.

KORTNEY OSBORN

MASON, MI

LUCAS LATIMER

MASON, MI

Research Priorities

The MCIA Board of Directors developed priorities to help guide them when making decisions on funding research proposals. This document was recently reviewed and changed to include more emphasis on small grains such as barley, oats and rye. This document will be continually monitored to reflect the current needs of the Association members. Priorities are below:

Dry Bean Research

- A.** Development and release of superior dry bean varieties to MCIA members
 - 1. High yield potential
 - 2. Upright plant architecture (direct cut ability)
 - 3. Disease resistance for Bacterial Blights, Anthracnose, Rust, BCM Virus, and Root rots.
 - 4. Industry acceptable color, size, and canning quality.
 - 5. Defect free in the sense of color and appearance that result in excessive dockage/pick.
 - 6. Sustainable varieties that capture grower market share/acceptance for multiple seasons.
- B.** Important areas
 - 1. Development of varieties resistant to Common Bacterial Blight. Bacterial blight diseases have been the major factor causing the dry bean seed industry to move its seed production to western states. Research into resistance to bacterial blights would greatly enhance the ability of Michigan dry bean seed producers to compete and become successful in this market.
 - 2. There is a need for the re-selection of popular or high use varieties. Dry bean varieties tend to last longer than varieties of other field crops. Re-selection will ensure that clean seed stocks are available through the life of the variety. This practice will normally extend the life of the variety.
 - 3. Development of root rots resistance in dark red kidney beans. Root rots can cause stand reductions and affect the grower's ability to successfully raise kidney beans.
 - 4. Development of a high yielding navy bean. There is a need for a high yielding navy bean variety for MCIA members.

Wheat Research

- A.** Development and release of superior red and white wheat varieties to MCIA members.
 - 1. High yield potential
 - 2. Excellent lodging resistance, high test weights, sprout resistance, and good winter hardiness.
 - 3. Disease resistance for scab, septoria, powdery mildew, and rust.
 - 4. Industry acceptable milling and baking qualities.
 - 5. The importance of wheat in a cropping system.
 - 6. Threshing ease: Ambassador =10, Jupiter = 1.
 - 7. Bearded varieties, both red and white, are desired in high deer population areas (most of Michigan).
 - 8. Non-Glycosidic Nitrile(Non-GN) varieties for malting/Distillation. Non-ethyl carbamate compound producers.
 - 9. Early maturing varieties suitable for double cropping.
- B.** Disease Resistance
 - 1. Development of scab resistance varieties. Scab resistant varieties would greatly benefit the Michigan wheat industry from producer to processor. Soft white wheat is really a specialty crop used in the Michigan milling industry. It is important to keep competitive varieties available so that we don't lose this industry. In the past 10 years many farmers have switched to corn or soybeans and away from wheat in their cropping systems.
- C.** Wheat Management
 - 1. Determine the best management practices for newly developed MCIA wheat varieties. As new varieties are released there is a need to determine the best way to manage these new wheat varieties. Research should focus on fertility, disease susceptibility and other factors that affect maximizing wheat profitability.

Oat Research

- A.** Developing, testing, and evaluating new oat varieties in Michigan climates to help oat producing MCIA members know which varieties will do best in their area.
 - 1.** High yield potential.
 - 2.** High test weight and milling qualities.
 - 3.** Improved disease resistance and good agronomic qualities.

Barley Research

- A.** Testing and evaluation of malting barley varieties in Michigan climates to fill the need for locally produced malting barley. MCIA members would like to be able to supply this market.
 - 1.** High yield potential.
 - 2.** Proper malting properties.
 - 3.** Improved disease resistance and good agronomic qualities.
- B.** Testing and evaluation of feed barley varieties in Michigan climates. MCIA members would like to be able to supply this market.
 - 1.** High yield potential.
 - 2.** Proper malting properties.
 - 3.** Improved disease resistance and good agronomic qualities.

Rye Research

- A.** Developing, testing, and evaluating new rye varieties in Michigan climates to help rye producing MCIA members know which varieties will do best in their area.
 - 1.** High yield potential.
 - 2.** High test weight and milling qualities.
 - 3.** Improved disease resistance and good agronomic qualities.

Research Funded #1

Title: **Developing Dry Edible Bean Cultivars with High-Yield Potential, Disease Resistance, Stress Tolerance, and Improved Canning Quality Suitable for Michigan Production**

Principal

Investigator: **Valerio Hoyos-Villegas**
 Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences
 Michigan State University
 East Lansing MI 48824
 hoyosval@msu.edu

Cooperators:

Scott Bales
 Dry Bean Specialist
 balessco@msu.edu

Marty Chilvers
 Professor of Plant Pathology and Extension
 chilvers@msu.edu

Karen Cichy
 USDA Geneticist in PSM
 karen.cichy@ars.usda.gov

Jim Palmer
 Manager, MCIA
 palmerj@michcrop.com

Justification: Michigan is the second largest producer of dry bean in the U.S., contributing significantly to the Michigan economy. To compete with other major crops, dry bean yields must remain competitive and meet Michigan industry standards for both growers and processors. To achieve this goal, a cooperative effort by researchers, producers, and the elevator industry is required. Michigan bean producers expect high-yielding, disease resistant cultivars with appropriate maturity, upright architecture for direct harvest, and good canning quality. These target traits are used as selection criteria to guide cultivar development in the MSU dry bean breeding program. Breeding lines must be evaluated across years and locations to ensure selection of new cultivars based on superior performance that is stable across the major production region of Michigan. Plant architecture continues to be a major breeding target for all major market classes (black, navy, and small red). Plants with upright architecture and a long-hypocotyl that maximizes pod-to-ground distance to facilitate efficient direct harvest are preferred to minimize yield and seed quality losses as well as provide avoidance to white mold. Breeding for disease resistance affecting dry bean production continues to be a priority. White mold continues to be a major disease; while avoidance provides some tolerance, physiological resistance is still necessary as narrow row widths exacerbate mold development. Root rot is the second most important disease hindering dry bean production in Michigan. Bean cultivars lack high levels of root rot resistance, specifically large-seeded Andean types. Disease resistance to common bacterial blight (CBB), anthracnose, and bean common mosaic virus (BCMV) continue to be incorporated using phenotypic and molecular tools into all market classes. An additional resistance gene for anthracnose (Co-5) has been successfully identified from un-adapted germplasm into agronomic black bean breeding lines, and efforts are underway to further incorporate it into elite black and navy bean materials. In addition, a project is underway to combine Co-4 and Co-5 sources of resistance. Seed quality traits such as color retention in black beans, slow darkening in pintos, seed shape in white kidneys, and color uniformity in reds and pinks are strictly selected to meet commercial standards. New methods for canning quality and color evaluation using imaging are being developed and underway for implementation. Selection for efficient dry down at maturity to reduce the need for crop desiccation is performed. Research and collaboration continue to identify new uses for dry bean to increase consumption in the U.S. This effort focuses on bean flour, fast cooking times, and other food applications for emerging sectors. New efforts in the areas outlined above promise greater progress, and continued investment to maintain an active breeding program at MSU offers an opportunity to deliver competitive cultivars which meet the needs of dry bean producers and address short-term and long-term issues like seed quality, genetic diversity, sustainability, and the opportunity to expand bean production.

Objectives & hypotheses:

Select for high-yield, disease resistance, appropriate maturity with uniform dry down, upright architecture for direct harvest, and good canning quality in major bean market classes grown in Michigan. Continued evaluation of navy and black bean classes in key target environments such as Huron county will ensure identification of stable lines across major production areas. Incorporate BCMV and anthracnose resistance into black, navy, pintos, great northerns, reds, and pink seed classes. Continue to improve root rot resistance in kidney and yellow bean market classes. Continue to refine genomic prediction models for more complex quantitative traits (e.g., yield, mold, canning quality). Deploy new high-throughput tools to efficiently phenotype for plant architecture, disease resistance, and maturity. Maintain the genetic integrity and purity of varieties at advanced stages of breeding for overall uniformity and quality.

Procedures:

Develop new germplasm through elite-by-elite crosses. Evaluate early generation nurseries using phenotypic and MAS to efficiently advance breeding lines resistant to anthracnose and BCMV in black, navy, pinto, pink, small red, great northern, and kidney bean classes. Evaluate replicated yield trials for each of these major market classes and collaborate in statewide trials to identify high-yielding varieties with improved disease resistance and uniform dry down suitable for direct harvest. Introgress the *Co-5* gene into additional market classes such as navy and small reds to enhance durability of anthracnose resistance. Genomic prediction models for yield and canning quality, particularly in black beans, will also be explored. High-throughput phenotyping using unmanned aerial system (UAS) will be deployed to estimate maturity and plant height.

Progress to date:

The MSU dry bean breeding and genetics program conducted 27 yield trials in 2025 in ten market classes across 4 locations and participated in the evaluation of the Cooperative Dry Bean, Midwest Regional Performance, National Drought and National Sclerotinia (NSI) Nurseries in Michigan. In Puerto Rico, we evaluated ~1617 early generation breeding lines as part of the W5150 collaborative winter nursery. Yield trials were planted (May 30-June 6) and received a total of 15.21" (June - Oct) of rain at Frankenmuth and 12.96" at Montcalm. Adequate moisture at planting led to uniform emergence, with continued rainfall throughout the season, excessive at times in some locations. Abnormally warm and dry September weather facilitated an early and efficient harvest. Navy and black bean yield trials were also evaluated on-farm in Huron County at two locations, one under heavy white mold pressure, while kidneys and yellows were tested in Montcalm County. Expanded on-farm testing has proven useful in recent seasons to ensure broad adaptation of advanced breeding lines. Other research focused on halo blight tolerance in light red kidney beans in collaboration with Dr. Chilvers' group to characterize current cultivars and pre-commercial germplasm from both public and private breeders. UAS was used to estimate key agronomic traits plant height and maturity. Genomic selection for white mold avoidance and yield in black and navy bean market classes continues based on a training population that now spans five seasons of data. Prediction models for yield and canning quality will be developed and refined in forthcoming seasons. Newly available KASP (Kompetitive Allele Specific) markers are being tested as a costeffective and fast alternative to screen for multiple traits simultaneously.

Funds requested:

\$75,000

Matching Funds:

Royalty funds from current MSU varieties; MSU continues to provide field, greenhouse and lab facilities and equipment; Continue to collaborate with PRAB to conduct statewide testing of elite MSU breeding lines with funding from MDARD Block Grant and MBC; Funds from NSI will be leveraged for research on white mold.

Impact on Michigan agriculture:

New high-yielding, good quality, and disease resistant bean cultivars suitable for direct harvest will help sustain the Michigan dry bean industry estimated at a farm-gate value of \$140 million with an additional \$25 million in handling and shipping the commodity. Impact will be measured by known acreage of varieties grown in Michigan. Breeding for high yield, disease resistance, appropriate maturity, uniform dry down, and N use efficiency will maximize bean producer profitability by reducing inputs and will significantly improve environmental sustainability and the ecological impact in the Great Lakes watershed.

Principal Investigator Signature



Research Funded #2

Title: Development of Soft Winter Wheat Varieties for Michigan and the Great Lakes Region

Principal

Investigator: Dr. Eric Olson

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Justification: New wheat varieties with increasingly higher yield potential are necessary to enhance the competitiveness of wheat production in Michigan and enhance profitability across the entire network of seedsmen, end users and wheat growers. The Michigan State Wheat Breeding and Genetics program aims to develop elite soft winter wheat varieties with high yield potential, disease resistance and quality parameters required by all wheat stakeholders in Michigan.

Objectives:

- 1)** Make crosses to incorporate new sources of yield potential, tolerance to preharvest sprouting and resistance to Fusarium head blight and wheat rusts into soft red and soft white winter wheat breeding populations.
- 2)** Apply selection to early generation bulk breeding populations to fix high heritability traits including flowering date, plant height and disease resistance.
- 3)** Implement phenotypic selection on derived inbred lines to identify genotypes that have high agronomic potential in replicated testing.
- 4)** Conduct replicated yield trials to identify genotypes with potential for commercialization and production as varieties in Michigan.

Procedures:

1) Crossing: The 2026 spring crossing block has been designed to include with 178 crosses among 30 soft red and white winter wheat parents. A total of 151 crosses (84%) will include at least one Fhb1 parent. All crosses will generate progeny with resistance to FHB, leaf rust and stripe rust as well as high yield potential.

2) Early generation selection: Populations are randomly advanced from the F1 the F4 generation in the greenhouse using the mini-bulk system. The F2 and F3 generations are screened with a combination of leaf and stripe rust and susceptible plants are culled from populations. The F4 seed of each population is space-planted in bulk plots of 400 plants. Single plants are selected from populations based on agronomic type, phenology and disease resistance.

3) Visual and phenomic selection: A total of 1,152 F4-derived lines are planted in single 5'x5' six-row plots at Mason, MI and will undergo visual and phenomic selection for disease resistance and agronomic type. Multi-spectral imaging will be performed using drones to develop phenomic predictions of grain yield and Nitrogen-use efficiency. F4-derived lines are evaluated in two reps in the misted FHB nursery. A set of 288 lines will be advanced into replicated yield testing in 2027.

4) Yield testing: Preliminary yield trials are comprised of 176 new F4-derived lines in two replications at Mason and SVREC. A set of 48 advanced lines is being yield tested at seven locations in MI. Stringent selection for yield, pre-harvest sprouting and FHB resistance is applied at this stage. A total of 98 commercial and experimental wheat varieties from the wheat seed industry, including 14 entries from MSU are being tested in three replicates at seven locations in the Michigan State Wheat Performance Trials. The commercial yield trials is also screened for response to FHB, leaf rust and stripe rust. Other traits evaluated include canopy architecture and Falling Number.

Progress to date:

In 2025, 273 crosses were made focused on yield potential, quality and resistance to FHB. Segregating F4 populations were developed from all crosses. Selections were made in 2025 within 280 F4 bulk populations at Mason, MI. A total of ~1,152 new inbred lines were derived and planted for selection in 2026. Selections were made in 2025 among 798 lines in a single plot observation nursery based on thousand kernel weight, maturity, resistance to leaf rust, stripe rust, FHB and Cephalosporium stripe. A total of 176 of these were advanced into replicated yield testing.

Selections were made among 360 lines in preliminary yield trials (PYT) tested at Mason and SVREC locations. A set of 36 experimental lines and four checks were at 18 locations across Michigan, the eastern US and Canada. From 2025 regional testing, a set of nine soft red and five soft white winter wheat lines have been advanced to commercial yield testing in Michigan.

In 2025, all lines in preliminary and advanced yield trials were evaluated for FHB resistance in an irrigated and inoculated nursery. Data were collected on severity, incidence and DON mycotoxin. Lines with high levels of resistance were identified and are in advanced stages of yield testing and are being used in the crossing program. All inbred lines in the breeding program were evaluated for resistance to leaf rust and stripe rust in the greenhouse and many resistant lines were identified.

Currently, 176 PYT entries are planted in two replications at two locations in MI, 1,152 5' plots of single plant selections and 273 F4 bulk populations, have been planted at Mason. The MI commercial yield trial, includes 14 MSU entries, and has been planted at seven locations in Michigan.

Funds requested:

MSU Wheat Breeding and Genetics is requesting \$50,000 to support research associates, undergraduate employees, consumables for field, greenhouse and lab activities as well as maintenance and repair of program equipment.

Matching Funds:

Michigan Wheat Program: \$187,584
US Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative: \$116,621
Total Matching Funds: \$304,205

Impact on Michigan agriculture:

Improved wheat varieties have great potential to impact the Michigan wheat industry and agricultural economy. Each bushel per acre increase across 500,000 acres statewide at \$5.00 per bushel translates into 2.5 million dollars of increased farm revenue. MSU Wheat Breeding and Genetics has the capacity for continued impact by developing soft winter wheat varieties with increased yield potential, high quality and improved disease resistance.

Principal Investigator Signature



Research Funded #3

Title: Supporting Adoption of Elite Oat and Barley Varieties in Michigan

Principal

Investigator: Dr. James DeDecker

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Cooperators: Dr. Brook Wilke

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Justification: This proposal speaks to MCIA's Priority A under the Oat Research and Barley Research categories. Spring oats and barley are well adapted to the relatively short growing season and cool summertime temperatures found in Michigan, especially the Northern Lower and Upper Peninsula. Approximately 50,000 acres of oats and 8,000 acres barley were planted in the state during 2023 (USDA-NASS). Oats and barley are commonly grown as a nurse crop or rotational crop. However, growers' interest in oat and barley production for market has increased again in recent years. This is being driven by several factors, including emerging niche markets for malting, distilling and milling, as well as erratic fall weather more frequently complicating winter wheat planting across Michigan.

Farmers considering transitioning acres to oats or barley have been somewhat hesitant due to the previous lack of research-based information regarding oat and barley variety performance in Michigan. In addition to local agronomic, yield and test weight data, producers also require information on feed, milling and malting quality of available oat and barley varieties to enhance marketability and value in the craft beverage and food-grade grain sectors.

Based on several years of oat and barley variety trials in cooperation with MCIA, the national Uniform Early Oat Performance Nursery (UEOPN) and Eastern Spring Barley Nursery (ESBN) projects, we now have an established pipeline for identifying superior oat and barley varieties available to MCIA members. However, seed producers, grain growers and processors often still require direct experience with new varieties at scale before they consider producing certified seed or planting large acreages.

Objectives & hypotheses:

Objective: Trial elite oat and barley varieties adapted to Michigan in small plots, on commercial farms and in craft malt houses to encourage adoption and diversification.

Hypothesis: Significant differences in agronomic qualities, disease resistance, yield potential, test weight and quality will be observed between check and new oat and barley varieties.

Procedures:

We will once again partner with Michigan growers, maltsters and millers to conduct a three-location oat and barley trial at the MSU Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center (UPREC) in Chatham, MI and on two commercial farms supplying Michigan malthouses, distillers or millers. The UPREC trial will evaluate 10-20 experimental and commercial varieties of each species in small plots. The on-farm trial will include elite commercial oat and barley varieties (3-4 each) identified in past research or solicited from MCIA, breeders, seed companies and end users like maltsters and millers. The experimental design will be a RCBD with one-three replications. Oats and barley will be planted in their own respective blocks/fields. Plot size will be at least 2.5 acres to accommodate minimum malting batch sizes. Planting, in-season management, and harvest will be conducted by staff from UPREC at the Chatham location and by cooperating farmers at the other two locations.

Measurements of stand establishment, crop disease or pest damage, average heading date, straw height, lodging, yield and test weight will be recorded for each variety in the field. In-season observations and data analysis will be completed by UPREC staff. Harvested samples will be analyzed for feed, milling and malting quality, including the presence of mycotoxins, and barley samples will be malted at pilot scale. Post-harvest analysis for quality parameters will be completed at the UPREC Malting Barley Quality Lab (grain quality) and the USDA CCRU (malt quality). All data will be analyzed and interpreted using appropriate statistical methodology.

Progress to date:

In 2025, we conducted a three-location spring malting barley and oat strip trial with support from MCIA. This work was leveraged and complemented by small plot oat and barley trials at UPREC with entries and funding from three private seed companies in addition to MCIA entries. Preliminary data from the strip trials is summarized in Tables 1 and 2 below. In general, HundsonNY and LGBU17-1320-A barley performed worse than our check variety, LCS Odyssey. Both HundsonNY and LGBU17-1320-A were slightly earlier, taller and more susceptible to lodging and PHS than Odyssey. SD Buffalo yielded more than our three oat check varieties Hayden, Ida and Rushmore, but also showed significant lodging at one location and slightly lower protein overall. Additional grain and malt quality data is forthcoming.

Funds requested:

\$17,112.31

Matching Funds:

While the support we have received from seed companies for small plot trials cannot be considered a direct match for the proposed MCIA strip trials, these projects are certainly complimentary. The small plots give us access to the newest germplasm available and allow initial evaluation of a larger number of entries, while the strip trials provide data on the most promising varieties currently available to growers at commercial scale.

Impact on Michigan agriculture:

Providing local data on oat and barley varieties for Michigan will aid variety selection and help farmers and grain buyers be more confident in growing and contracting these crops. Increased diversity from adding spring small grains will help to mitigate financial and environmental risk on farms. These crops may also improve climate resilience by serving as an alternative to wheat when adverse fall weather prevents timely winter wheat planting. Additionally, conducting variety performance trials will provide data to breeders of spring small grains to help speed the development and release of new superior varieties to MCIA members.

Budget:

Attachment

Principal Investigator Signature



Research Funded #3, continued

Table 1. Malting Barley Strip Trial Results

Location	Variety	Heading Date	Height (in)	Lodging (OG-5B)	Yield (bu/acre)	Test Weight	Disease (1-5)	Protein (%)	Plump (%)	Thin (%)	GE (%)	RVU	DON (ppm)
Chatham	HudsonNY	7/10	28.9	0.0	48.5	52.7	0.8	10.2	98.5	0.1	91.3	51.0	0.4
Chatham	LCS Odyssey	7/13	22.0	0.0	46.6	50.8	0.5	9.5	97.9	0.2	88.6	140.2	0.4
Chatham	LGBU17-1320-A	7/12	20.6	0.0	52.2	47.6	0.3	9.3	98.6	0.2	88.0	33.7	0.4
Johannesburg	HudsonNY	NA	23.1	0.4	118.8	46.9	3.1	12.4	95.4	1.0	NA	NA	NA
Johannesburg	LCS Odyssey	NA	20.2	0.4	131.8	45.8	2.5	11.2	99.1	0.1	NA	NA	NA
Johannesburg	LGBU17-1320-A	NA	20.6	1.1	119.5	47.0	2.4	11.6	98.6	0.2	NA	NA	NA
Croswell	HudsonNY	6/22	24.6	2.3	56.9	46.6	1.0	12.6	91.7	0.7	NA	NA	NA
Croswell	LCS Odyssey	6/25	25.4	0.6	60.5	44.8	2.0	11.9	93.5	0.5	NA	NA	NA
Croswell	LGBU17-1320-A	6/24	32.0	3.7	57.6	42.8	1.7	11.0	92.4	0.9	NA	NA	NA
Average	HudsonNY	7/1	25.5	0.9	74.7	48.7	1.6	11.8	95.2	0.6	91.6	51.0	0.4
Average	LCS Odyssey	7/4	22.5	0.2	79.6	47.1	1.7	10.8	96.8	0.3	88.6	140.2	0.4
Average	LGBU17-1320-A	7/3	24.4	1.6	76.4	45.8	1.4	10.7	96.5	0.4	88.0	33.7	0.4

Table 2. Oat Strip Trial Results

Location	Variety	Heading Date	Height (in)	Lodging (OG-5B)	Yield (bu/acre)	Test Weight	Disease (1-5)	Protein (%)	Thin (%)	GE (%)	RVU	DON (ppm)
Chatham	Hayden	7/9	32.8	0.0	79.7	38.7	0.0	10.9	0.0	NA	NA	NA
Chatham	Ida	7/9	33.0	0.3	76.2	38.0	0.0	11.6	0.2	NA	NA	NA
Chatham	Rushmore	7/7	32.7	0.0	75.9	41.5	0.0	11.1	0.1	NA	NA	NA
Chatham	SD Buffalo	7/8	35.2	0.0	84.3	37.9	0.0	10.2	0.0	NA	NA	NA
Johannesburg	Hayden	NA	25.7	0.0	78.4	35.4	2.8	12.2	0.4	NA	NA	NA
Johannesburg	Ida	NA	28.5	0.0	73.4	36.3	3.0	12.7	0.3	NA	NA	NA
Johannesburg	Rushmore	NA	24.6	0.0	85.3	36.7	4.0	12.8	0.2	NA	NA	NA
Johannesburg	SD Buffalo	NA	27.1	0.0	80.5	35.9	2.8	12.6	0.2	NA	NA	NA
Croswell	Hayden	6/20	40.1	1.8	126.7	35.5	1.8	12.4	0.4	NA	NA	NA
Croswell	Ida	6/23	40.5	0.5	125.4	34.6	1.5	12.5	0.3	NA	NA	NA
Croswell	Rushmore	6/19	40.3	3.5	125.3	34.3	1.8	12.9	0.9	NA	NA	NA
Croswell	SD Buffalo	6/21	41.0	2.8	144.5	36.0	1.0	12.5	0.2	NA	NA	NA
Average	Hayden	6/29	32.9	0.6	94.9	36.5	1.5	11.8	0.3	NA	NA	NA
Average	Ida	7/1	34.0	0.3	91.7	36.3	1.5	12.3	0.2	NA	NA	NA
Average	Rushmore	6/28	32.5	1.2	95.5	37.5	1.9	12.2	0.4	NA	NA	NA
Average	SD Buffalo	6/29	34.4	0.9	103.1	36.6	1.3	11.7	0.1	NA	NA	NA

Research Funded #4

continues on following page

Title: **Supporting Winter Rye and Barley Production in Michigan for Food, Feed, & Craft Beverages**

Principal

Investigator: **Dr. James DeDecker**

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Cooperators: **Dr. Brook Wilke**

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Justification: This proposal addresses Item A under MCIA Priorities for barley and rye. Winter cereals are well suited for Michigan's climate, but summer annual crops (i.e. corn and soybean) still dominate our farm landscapes. Fall planted cereal crops are beneficial in cropping systems either as a main crop or as a cover crop due to their potential to enhance soil health, weed management, and environmental quality through mechanisms such as carbon sequestration and reduction in erosion and nutrient loss to surface and ground water (Snapp et al. 2005). For these fall-planted crops to be economically competitive with corn and soybeans, further research is needed to improve genetics, evaluate variety and breeding line options, expand markets, and optimize management.

Objectives & hypotheses:

Objective 1: Conduct winter barley and rye variety and agronomy trials at two locations in Michigan.

Hypothesis 1: Performance will vary based on the interaction of variety, management and location.

Objective 2: Evaluate quality characteristics of winter barley and rye varieties for various end uses.

Hypothesis 2: Quality characteristics will vary between varieties, locations and management.

Procedures:

Replicated winter barley and rye trials were planted in Sept-Oct 2025 at Kellogg Biological Station in Hickory Corners (KBS), the Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center in Chatham (UPREC, rye), and on commercial farms/distilleries in Delta (barley), Antrim, Benzie, Berrien, and Presque Isle Counties (rye). Thirty-six barley varieties were sourced through the Winter Malting Barley Trial (WMBT) coordinated by the University of Minnesota and commercial suppliers, while six rye varieties were sourced from commercial suppliers for agronomy trials. Our team will manage barley according to the WMBT network protocol, with addition entries and sampling for a winter hardiness project supported by MDARD Craft Beverage Council (CBC). The rye trials are comparing four different seeding rates and four nitrogen rates across six hybrid and open pollinated varieties. The experimental design for both trials is a horizontal lattice with three or four replications. These trials are in replicated small plots at KBS, UPREC and Delta Co. while onfarm rye sites are using strip plots with a reduced number of varieties (2) and treatments (N rate or seeding rate). In-field measurements will include stand, winter survival, heading & maturity date, height, and disease levels. Grain weight, test weight and moisture will be measured immediately after harvest. Grain samples will be composited from each variety for quality analysis. The Grain Quality Lab at UPREC will process the grain samples, and barley varieties that meet certain quality standards will be sent to the USDA Cereal Crops Research Unit for micro-malting and analysis. In the fall of 2026, we will follow the same protocols for establishing the next year's winter barley and rye trials.

Research Funded #4, cont'd

Progress to date:

Wilke and DeDecker have been leaders in barley, rye, and oat research at Michigan State University since 2015, including conducting variety, agronomy and sensory studies as well as outreach prioritized by the industry. With ongoing support from MCIA, we are well positioned to continue this important work in service of Michigan growers, processors and the broader small grains value chain. Results from previous trials are available on the MSU Malting Barley website, with a preliminary summary of available 2024-5 data below. We've conducted ongoing winter barley variety trials since 2016 through a partnership with the University of Minnesota's WMBT network and support from CBC and the American Malting Barley Association. Support from MCIA is being used to complete grain quality analysis for the 2024-25 WMBT and rye trails and to establish the listed locations for our 2025-26 winter barley and rye work. Industry interest and participation in our rye agronomy project has been especially strong this year, with major craft distilleries (Mammoth, Iron Fish) and seed suppliers (KWS, C3 Seeds) providing seed and hosting trial locations.

Funds requested:

\$13,368.90

Matching Funds:

A \$39K proposal was submitted to MI CBC again this fall to leverage MCIA support for rye trials through complimentary research focused on updating cereal rye agronomic best management practices (nitrogen rate, seeding rate, fungicide and growth regulator) in the context of Michigan environments and adapted varieties (hybrid vs. OP). This proposal is still under review, so should not be considered as match, but is certainly complimentary.

Wilke and DeDecker are collaborators on a winter barley hardiness project funded by the Michigan Craft Beverage Council led by Dr. Emily Holm (\$80K, 2024-27). This project is leveraging the winter barley trials planted with MCIA funding. Funding has also been secured annually from the American Malting Barley Association (plus supplements from Bells Brewing and Michigan Brewers Guild) totaling \$5-10K per year since 2019 to support winter barley variety and agronomic research.

Impact on Michigan agriculture:

Rye and winter barley are underutilized in Michigan, in part due to the lack of information on variety suitability and agronomy for specific end uses. Previous research on rye varieties conducted by the PIs found up to threefold differences in yield between rye varieties (hybrid vs. OP), with substantial quality variation as well. It is also becoming clear that individual rye varieties require tailored management of seeding and N rates, fungicide and growth regulator to maximize yield and minimize issues like lodging. Farmers have a lot to gain by understanding the yield, agronomic and quality characteristics of rye varieties, and choosing the best fit for their end use.

Winter barley can be a phenomenal crop for the southern part of Michigan, with high yield potential and the realistic possibility of double cropping soybeans or dry beans after barley harvest. Winter barley is also becoming more feasible in certain microclimates further north. There is renewed interest in barley as an ingredient to satisfy local and national malting/brewing/distilling/ baking demand. Breeders at several universities (e.g. Ohio State, Minnesota, Virginia Tech, Nebraska, Cornell) are developing improved winter barley varieties for malting and feed end uses, and these new lines need to be tested in Michigan alongside commercial varieties to quantify relative productivity and potential for various end uses.

As we identify elite varieties and agronomic best management practices for winter barley and rye, we will work closely with MCIA, Michigan Craft Beverage Council, Michigan Agriculture Advancement, MSU Extension, and other partners to share research results

Budget:

Attachment

Principal Investigator Signature



Table 1. Rye Performance Across Locations in 2024-25

Loc.	Trt	Variety	Type	Low N, no fungicide			High N, fungicide		
				Yield (bu/acre)	Test Weight	Lodging (0g-10B)	Yield (bu/acre)	Test Weight	Lodging (0g-10B)
Avg.	1	FL401	OP	49.7	51.6	3.3	29.1	53.1	3.3
Avg.	2	Merced	OP	43.1	51.9	3.0	34.3	53.4	5.3
Avg.	3	ND Dylan	OP	32.5	53.1	8.5	39.2	52.6	5.7
Avg.	4	Wren's Abruzzi	OP	34.1	53.7	6.7	40.8	54.4	5.0
Avg.	5	Rymin	OP	21.9	55.5	4.0	22.7	55.4	2.0
Avg.	6	KWS Covermaxf2	Hybrid	79.7	53.1	1.8	70.9	53.3	2.0
Avg.	7	ND Gardner	OP	43.5	45.0	8.0	57.1	54.0	6.3
Avg.	8	KWS Tayo	Hybrid	98.7	53.6	1.85	97.2	53.8	1.5
Avg.	9	KWS Progas	Hybrid	66.8	47.4	5.0	86.5	52.9	2.3
Avg.	10	Danko	OP	65.3	55.1	2.8	62.9	54.5	3.5
Avg.	11	AC Hazlet	OP	51.4	53.7	7.8	55.7	53.5	5.7
Avg.	12	Hancock	OP	38.5	53.4	7.7	42.4	53.0	7.0
Avg.	13	Wheeler	OP	27.8	50.7	6.3	28.5	50.5	6.0
Avg.	14	AC Hazlet	OP	45.9	54.0	7.5	55.5	53.9	4.8
Avg.	15	Elbon	OP	46.1	54.8	6.8	58.2	54.8	5.8
Avg.	16	KWS Serafino	Hybrid	72.7	54.6	2.7	84.2	54.1	1.8
Avg.	17	Rosen	OP	27.0	52.0	8.7	34.4	51.6	8.3
KBS	Avg.			52.9	50.7	6.2	50.3	50.3	5.1
UPREC	Avg.			48.5	55.6	5.0	57.1	56.3	4.0
Avg.	Avg.	OP		40.8	53.4	6.6	44.0	53.4	5.4
Avg.	Avg.	Hybrid		79.5	52.2	2.7	84.7	53.5	1.9

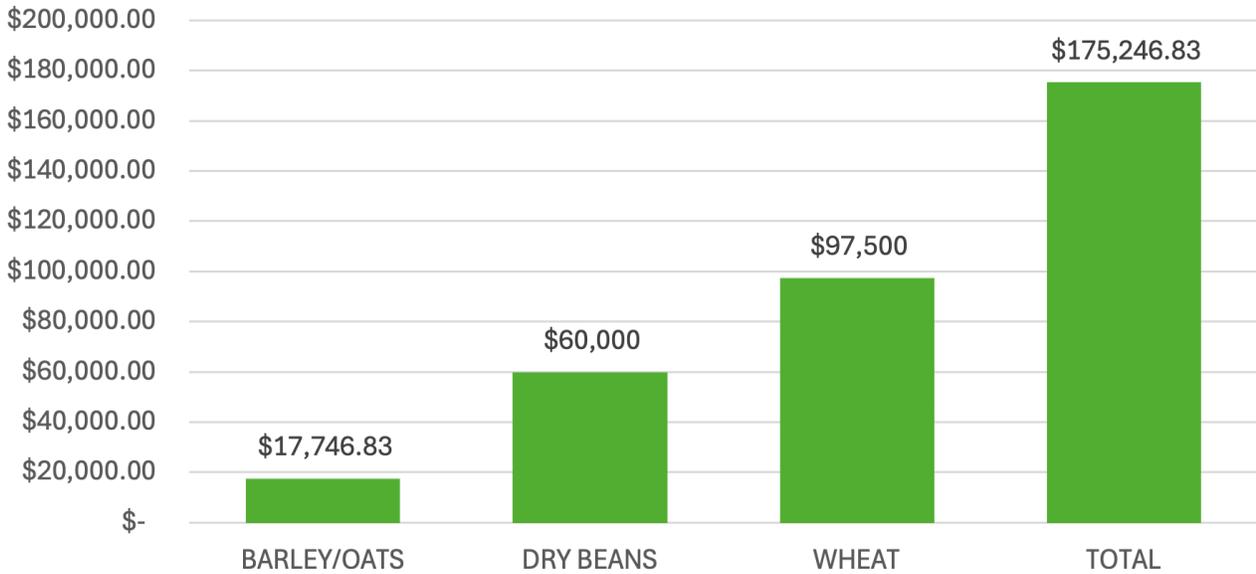
Table 2. KBS Winter Barley Yield in 2024-25

Trt	Variety	Yield (bu/acre)	TW
1	LCS_VIOLETTA	137.2	44.7
2	WINTMALT	139.2	43.7
3	KWS_DONAU	139.0	42.8
4	KWS_DELIS	138.5	43.7
5	15ARS607-1	132.88	40.6
6	16ARS622-248	119.8	41.2
7	16ARS627-037	112.8	45.3
8	16ARS634-2	101.1	38.5
9	16/449/71	160.5	44.6
10	VA22M-160	99.3	46.0
11	VA22M-158	150.8	46.3
12	VA22M-30	139.5	46.9
13	NYBS811-31	126.9	45.3
14	NYBS811-43	135.4	43.7
15	NYBS811-33	146.7	47.5
16	NYBS811-34	15.7	46.2
17	NB22260	118.1	43.1
18	NB22259	69.0	45.7
19	RIL0257-01-011	99.0	40.9
20	GHRIL0201-088	85.4	42.0
21	GHRIL020PL-190	146.6	47.2
22	GHRIL02SCL-010	141.4	46.9
23	DH141947	141.2	43.4
24	DH171854	88.5	45.0
25	DH190077	161.0	45.1
26	DH300620	162.9	46.1
27	2MW19_3013-004	146.3	45.1
28	2MW19_3346-014	141.6	45.3
29	TM17.167-008	111.0	41.3
30	TM18.236-016	132.7	43.7
31	Avalon	119.0	47.4
32	Flavia	141.2	46.3
33	Hirondella	148.9	42.4
34	KWS Orbit	170.2	42.7
35	LCS Calypso	147.5	45.2
36	Marouetta	163.6	44.4
37	Secretariat	90.4	43.6
38	VT Beahm	112.6	43.9
39	20211573	85.7	57.1
Avg.		130.5	44.6

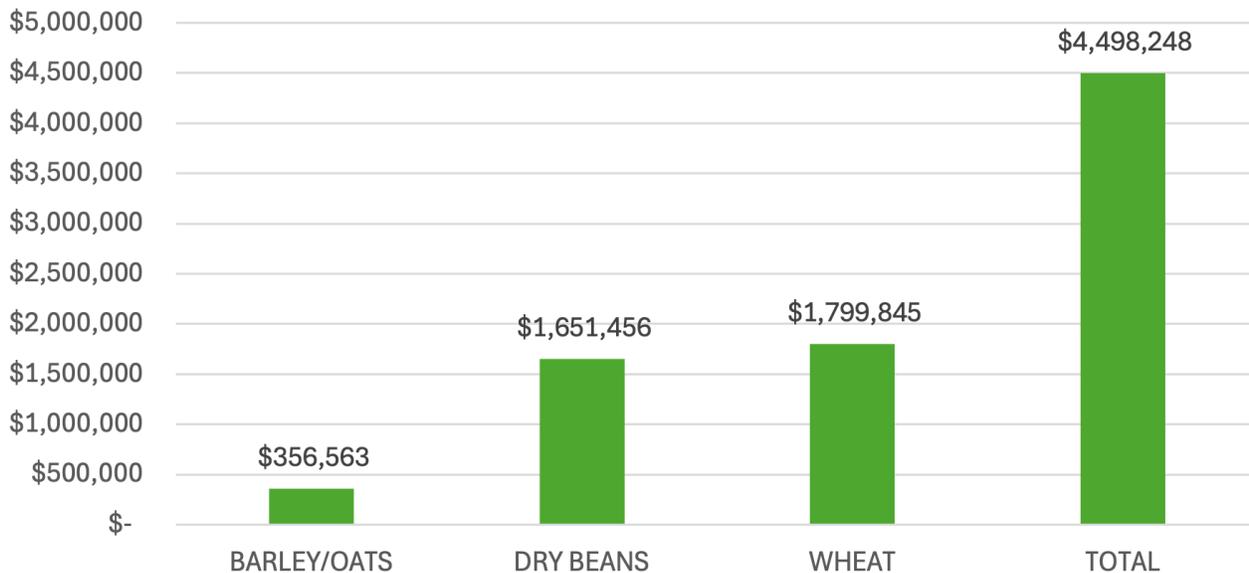
MSU Research Funded

Funds collected on sales of Foundation Seed are used to support these critical areas of research at MSU. Programs funded help provide new and improved varieties as well as key yield and agronomic research. Research proposals are funded based on the established MCIA research priorities. Yearly funding and historical support history are listed below.

2025 Distributed Totals



1949-2025 Distributed Totals



MCIA PROGRAMS

Programs

- » **Seed Certification** — Traditional certification for public varieties in cooperation with other state agencies within the United States.
- » **Quality Assurance (QA)** — Quality verification system for private labeled seed marketed by brand name.
- » **Identity Preserved (IP)** — Verification and traceability system for grain with added value traits.
- » **Source Identified** — Verification system for native species/germplasm to show adaptability based on genetic origin and seed production location.
- » **Forage and Mulch** — Inspection program to prevent the spread of noxious weeds in feed material and mulch used in plant seedings.
- » **Compliance Audits** — A sequence of questions and evaluations used to document compliance to guidelines or standards.

Certifications & Accreditations

- » **MDARD** — The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development(MDARD) authorizes MCIA to verify that all seed certified and sold in Michigan meets the State of Michigan standards. MCIA has three Commercial Pesticide Applicators employed in the seed plant.
- » **AOSCA** — MCIA is a member of the US and international seed certification agencies collectively known as AOSCA (Association of Official Seed Certification Agencies).
- » **OECD** — MCIA is authorized by USDA to verify that seed shipped to the European Union (and other member countries) meets the minimum OECD (Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development) certification and shipping standards.
- » **USDA** — MCIA is authorized as the official certification agency for interstate seed sales according to the Federal Seed Act.
- » **SCST** — MCIA is a member of the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists (SCST), an organization of professional seed analysts and labs across the US and Canada.
- » **ASL** — The MCIA seed lab is accredited by USDA to perform official testing as an Accredited Seed Lab (ASL).
- » **BRCGS** — Brand Reputation through Compliance of Global Standards. The MCIA processing plant is third party audited and an approved food safe handler with an AA rating.
- » **Organic Handler** — The MCIA processing plant is designated a Certified Organic handler audited yearly by Minnesota Crop Improvement Association.
- » **FDA** — MCIA is a registered food facility under authority of the FDA.
- » **RST** — MCIA employs one Registered Seed Technologists.

Events Attended

Our team was able to take advantage of many in-person field days and seminars in 2025 as well as attend several virtual events. We used these opportunities to listen and learn as well as network in the ag community.

A list of some events attended are below:

- » MABA Winter Conference and Trade Show
- » Multiple MSUE Field Crops Virtual Breakfast Meetings
- » AOSCA Regional and Annual Meetings
- » AOSA/SCST Annual Meetings
- » ASTA National Meeting
- » Wheat Growers Summer Field Day and Annual Meeting
- » Soybean Quality Workshops by SODAK
- » Saginaw Bean and Beet Field Day
- » Thumb Ag Day
- » AgroExpo
- » Great Lakes Crop Summit
- » Seed Treatment Seminars
- » Fumigation Seminars
- » Facility Pest Control in Agriculture Workshop
- » Great Lakes Expo for Fruits and Vegetables
- » Purity Short Course at Iowa State
- » Grass Seed Structures Webinar
- » Hybrid Wheat Technology Seminar
- » SODAK Quality Assurance Seminar
- » USDA Grain Grading School
- » Federal Seed Act Webinar- Seed Labeling

Field Services Report

TOM SILER

Michigan Crop Improvement Association provides its members with field inspection services to identify potential quality or purity concerns with their crop. In addition to field inspections for MI and AOSCA seed certification, MCIA offers field inspection in the following programs:

- » Quality Assurance Inspections for brand labeling of seed
- » Identity Preserved for specialty grain products
- » OECD Certification for international seed sales
- » Certified Noxious Weed Free Mulch
- » Service & Custom Field Inspections

Regardless of the program, MCIA strives to provide members with professional and unbiased information through field inspections during the growing season.

Michigan Crop Improvement Association inspected a total of 97,224 acres in 2025, an increase of 26% compared to 2024. Corn acres increased significantly from the previous year, while small grain and dry beans saw modest increases in inspection acreage. Certified seed was the largest inspection program, making up 74% of acres. Custom field inspections made up 14% of acres, the Quality Assurance program made up 10% of acres, and the remaining were service field inspections.

Crop Year

The fall of 2024 and spring of 2025 both provided excellent opportunities for timely planting. Cool temperatures in early summer resulted in delayed pollination in corn, but as temperatures rose, the crop was quick to catch up. Variable rain resulted in areas with high and low moisture, dry beans suffered in some areas. Warm weather late into the summer resulted in quicker than normal soybean maturity, with many fields being harvested <10% moisture.

Small Grain

The fall of 2024 provided growers with an excellent opportunity to plant their winter grains in a timely manner with over 57% planting before October. In some areas, limited moisture resulted in delayed emergence, but favorable conditions quickly returned and many growers saw record setting yields and limited disease pressure. The lack of rain during harvest made sprouting a non-issue this year. 6,348 acres of wheat were inspected with 33% white wheat and 67% red wheat. Certified acres of triticale (867) and oats (485) were down compared to 2024, while barley and rye acres were up slightly from 2024 with (186) and (583) acres, respectively.

Corn

Corn acreage in 2025 increased 47% compared to 2024, totaling 67,037 acres. This growth is largely attributed to the recent approval of traits previously restricted in foreign markets. MCIA continued daily and accreditation inspections to support field management during the pollination window and ensure compliance with certification standards. Compared to recent years, the pollination window was later and shorter, resulting in a condensed inspection timeline. Overall, weather conditions supported a favorable planting sequence and effective field management. The majority of seed corn was inspected under accreditation guidelines for labeling as USA Certified. The accreditation process includes field inspections and audit reviews to verify other seed certification requirements. Additionally, MCIA assisted the State of Michigan in collecting corn tissue samples for disease inspection, with sampling conducted after pollination when disease symptoms are more apparent.

Dry Bean

Dry bean acreage increased 20% compared to 2024, with a total of 829 acres inspected. Black beans saw the largest gain, with 816 acres this year, driven by new varieties Kona and Black Pearl. Other market classes included 35 acres of kidney beans and 41 acres of small red beans. Precipitation during the growing season was highly variable, particularly in the Thumb region, where areas just a mile or two apart experienced either excessive or insufficient rainfall. As a result, yields were inconsistent. Only two fields failed certification due to isolated anthracnose infections, while all remaining fields met field and lab standards for blight.

Soybean

Soybean inspection acreage was down 8% compared to last year, with 20,569 acres inspected in 2025. Custom soybean inspections made up 13,201 acres, while the remaining acreage included Quality Assurance (5,410), Service (706), Interagency (970), and Certified (282). Summer heat persisted late into the growing season, accelerating soybean maturity. This created an extremely short inspection window, requiring our inspectors to work diligently to stay ahead of combines and ensure all fields were properly evaluated. The late summer heat and lack of rainfall resulted in many field being harvested at less than 10% moisture. MCIA performs both early season blossom inspections and final field inspections. Early inspections focus on crop management, weed escapes, volunteer corn and trait purity, while fall inspections identify off-types and confirm varietal purity.

Summary

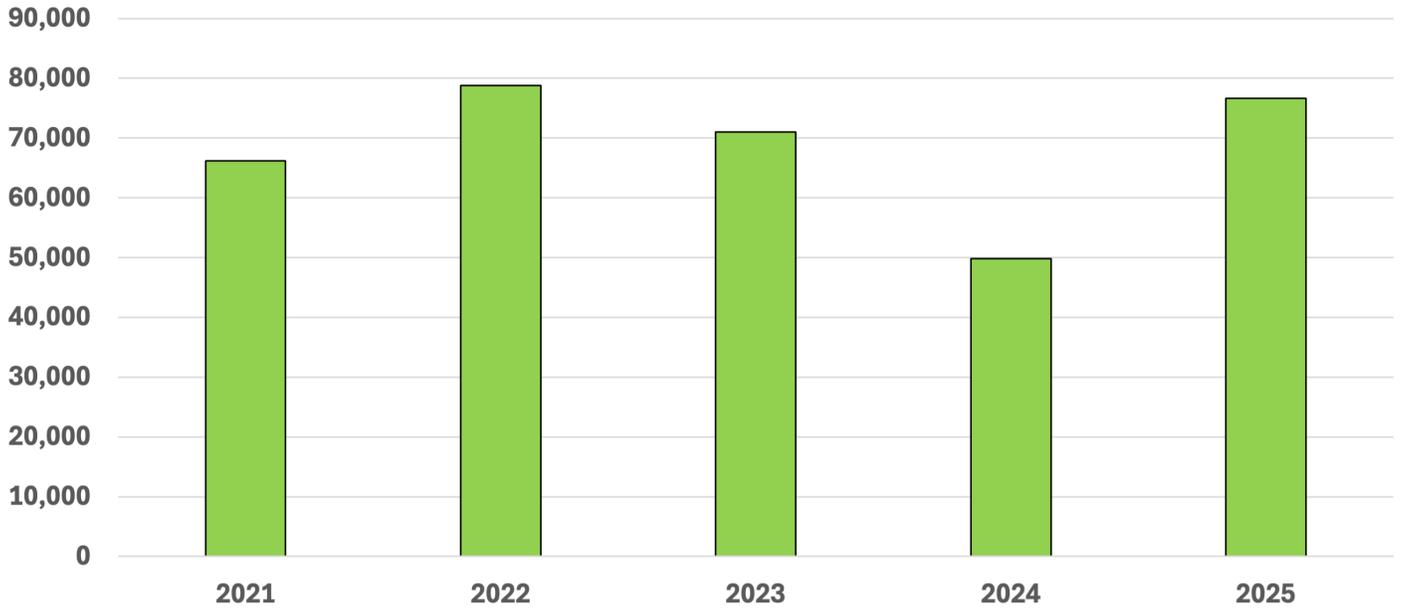
The 2025 season brought both challenges and rewards for growers, as well as for MCIA staff and inspectors. The experience and insight from our veteran inspectors was critical for this season's success. Throughout the season, we continued utilizing the electronic reporting system, which enhanced inspector efficiency in the field and reduced office workload. We appreciate your cooperation and partnership and look forward to assisting you again in the 2026 season.



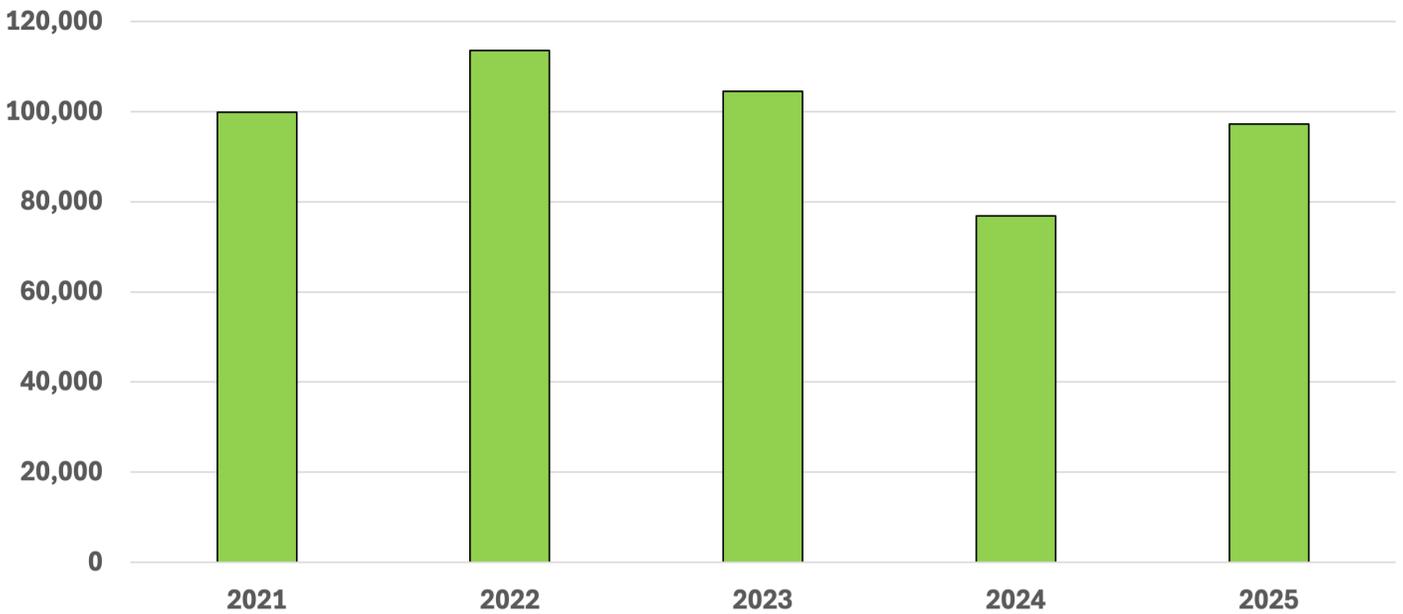
Corn inspector training session.

Inspection Acres

Total Certified Acres Inspected



Total Acres Inspected



Inspection Acres by Variety

White Wheat Acreage

VARIETY	2023	2024	2025
A/C Mountain	104	0	104
Jupiter	402	440	303
Moonlight	99	0	0
Whitetail	660	698	623
Private	74	45	0
QA Wheat		51	171
Service Wheat	783	897	894
Total White	1339	2131	2095

Red Wheat Acreage

VARIETY	2023	2024	2025
MCIA .357	120	140	105
Sunburst	306	201	279
Private	584	238	146
QA Wheat	1467	1383	1460
Service Wheat	2819	1932	2263
Total Red	5296	3894	4253
Wheat Total	6635	6025	6348

Oat Acreage

VARIETY	2023	2024	2025
Esker 2020	22	23	40
Hayden	173	219	132
Horsepower	47	0	0
Ida	265	343	254
Rushmore	73	86	57
SD Ranger	0	0	2
Oats Total	580	671	485

Barley Acreage

VARIETY	2023	2024	2025
Bowers	236	121	137
LCS Calypso	12	7	6
LCS Odyssey	20	20	25
Rasmussen	20	20	18
QA Barley	0	1	0
Total	288	169	186

Colored Bean Acreage

VARIETY	2023	2024	2025
Alpena	0	50	0
Charro	15	0	0
Denali	0	27	20
Snowdon	0	25	15
Kona	0	0	428
Black Pearl	0	3	331
Zenith	290	494	57
Zorro	20	30	0
Cayenne	0	0	41
QA	49	0	0
Colored Bean Total	374	629	892

Soybean Acreage

VARIETY	2023	2024	2025
IA 1029	41	0	0
IAS 19C3	40	40	158
IA 2102	0	0	40
IA 3054RA12	20	38	84
Private	1925	0	0
Total	101	78	282
QA	8651	8004	6116
Soybean Total	10677	8082	6398

Miscellaneous Acreage

VARIETY	2023	2024	2025
Corn	34060	13851	39111
Rye	269	567	583
Triticale	756	944	867
Identity Preserved	240	0	0
Interagency Cert.	2817	2202	1046
Daily Corn Service	32272	31394	27926
Grand Total	88968	64534	83842
Corn Disease Fields	288	267	313
Soybean Service	14467	12175	13201
Certified Mulch	261	209	182

2025 Lab Report

LAUREN BOGI

The MCIA Seed Lab is a full-service seed laboratory that supports the industry through two primary functions. First, we help farmers better understand appropriate planting windows based on the condition of their seed. Second, we serve as the final step in the seed Certification process.

After crops successfully pass field inspection and complete one or more trips through the conditioning plant, producers submit seed samples to our lab for testing. Each crop has specific testing requirements that must be met to earn the designation of “Certified” seed. All crops require Purity Analysis, Noxious Weed Seed Examination, Germination tests, and a vigor assessment. The primary vigor tests used in our lab include Accelerated Aging, Cold Germination, and Tetrazolium testing, with customers able to choose which vigor test(s) they wish to run.

Once testing is complete, results are evaluated against the standards established by the Michigan Department of Agriculture under Regulation No. 623, Field Seed Certification. These standards apply uniformly across Foundation, Certified, and Quality Assurance (QA) classes. While many are familiar with this process, it is always helpful to provide a refresher.

The year 2025 brought significant change to the MCIA Seed Lab. We lost one-third of our lab staff due to the retirement of Chris Tiedje. At the same time, we completed a major overhaul of our computer intake system and tag printing process. With many moving parts and adjustments required, I am pleased to report that the lab continues to operate efficiently with two full-time employees, Joyce and me, along with support from a part-time MSU student who assists with planting during the week.

Grain quality was generally good across the board this year. Importantly, no sprouting was observed during the growing season, which is always a major concern for growers and the industry. We also completed a substantial amount of NRCS-related testing this year. For customers requesting this service, Purity Analysis, Noxious Weed Seed Examination, and Germination tests are required. All testing and tag issuance followed Michigan Seed Law. A notable number of Purity Analyses required re-testing due to the presence of noxious weed seeds, and we anticipate this trend may continue into the coming year.

In total, 6,299 seed tests were completed in 2025, representing a modest 2% decrease from the prior year. Overall, the number of tests increased for most crops, with declines observed in barley, triticale, wheat, and soybean. Corn testing increased by 27% compared to the prior year. This growth was driven by increased service testing and a higher volume of carryover testing for local seed companies. Overall, corn quality remains strong. Soybean testing declined by 37% from 2024, largely due to one large customer shifting testing to a different laboratory. Dry bean testing increased overall compared to 2024. Black bean testing rose by 41%, kidney beans increased by 29%, and navy beans increased by 5%. Michigan-grown dry beans were generally of excellent quality, while western grown beans showed more mechanical damage and bald heads during germination. A total of 121 samples were sent to the MDARD Lab for Blight and Anthracnose testing, a required step in seed certification, with more than half coming from black beans. All samples tested negative for both diseases.

We also experienced an increase in dry bean testing related to Canadian M&P Evaluation. Several companies are utilizing this process, which follows Canadian Seed Testing Rules. We provide standardized reports to support seed movement into Canada, and we expect demand for this testing to continue growing in 2026. Additionally, we have welcomed several new customers from western states, contributing to increased testing volume.

Both grass and vegetable testing increased in 2025, with grass testing up 23% and vegetable testing up 39%. This growth reflects expanded business from existing customers as well as new customers requiring testing for both new crop and carryover seed.

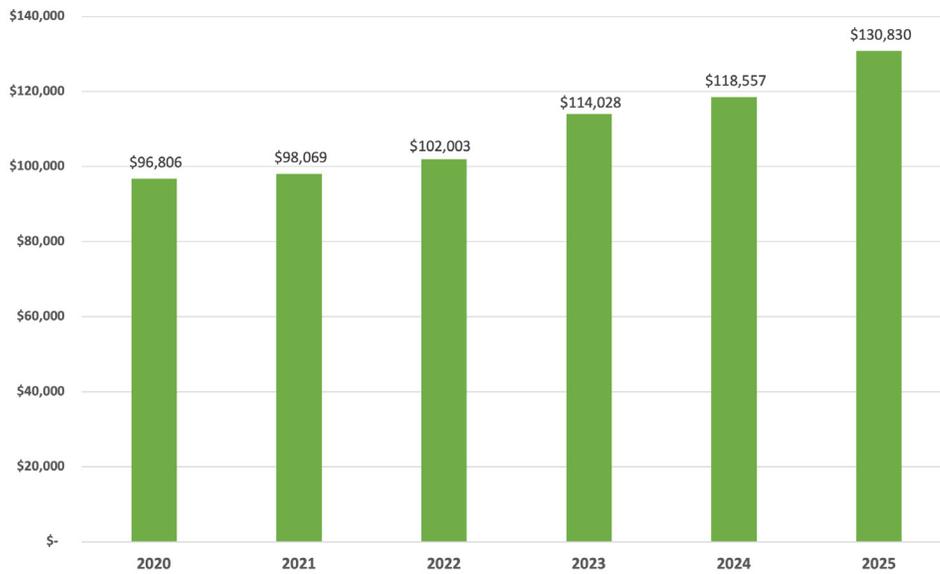
Looking ahead to 2026, there may be unforeseen challenges, but I am confident we will continue to navigate them successfully. Joyce and I remain committed to providing reliable, accurate seed testing services, and we wish everyone a successful 2026 growing season.



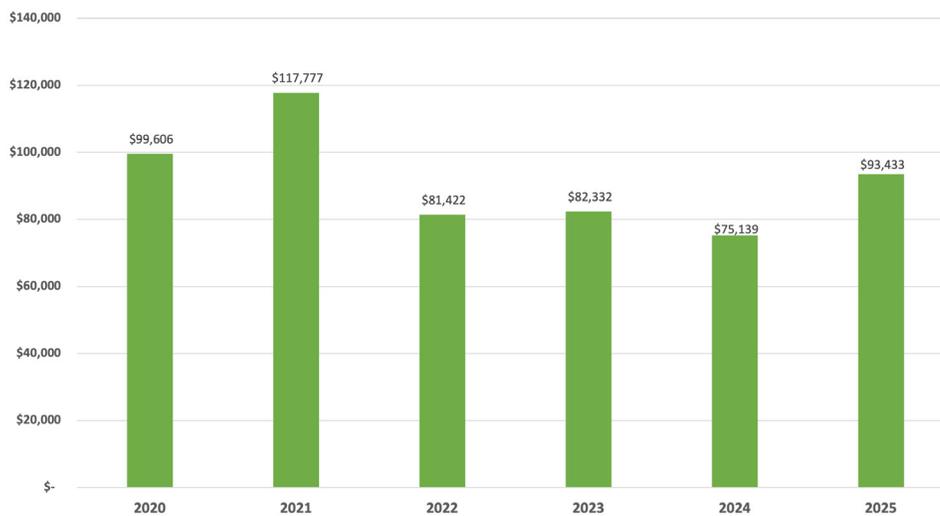
Corn sample ready for read out.

Lab and Tag Income

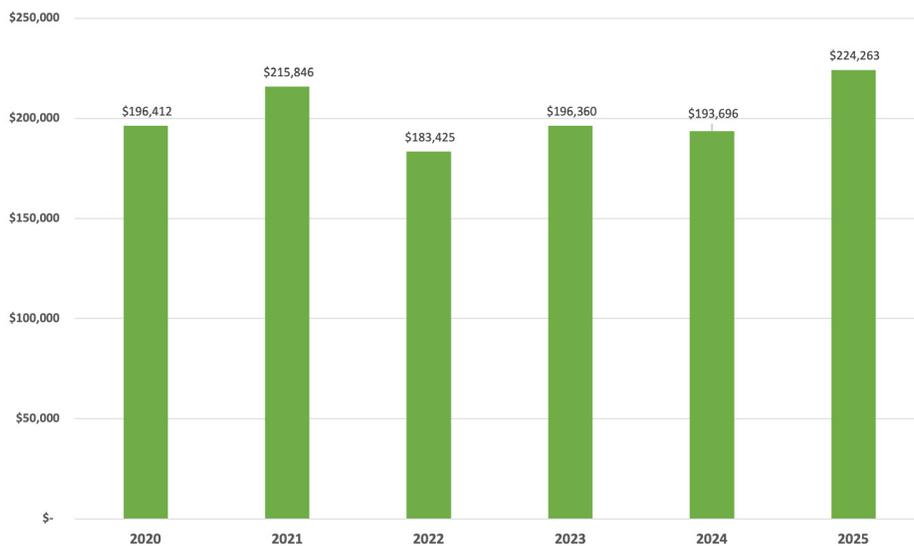
2025 Lab Income



2025 Tag Income



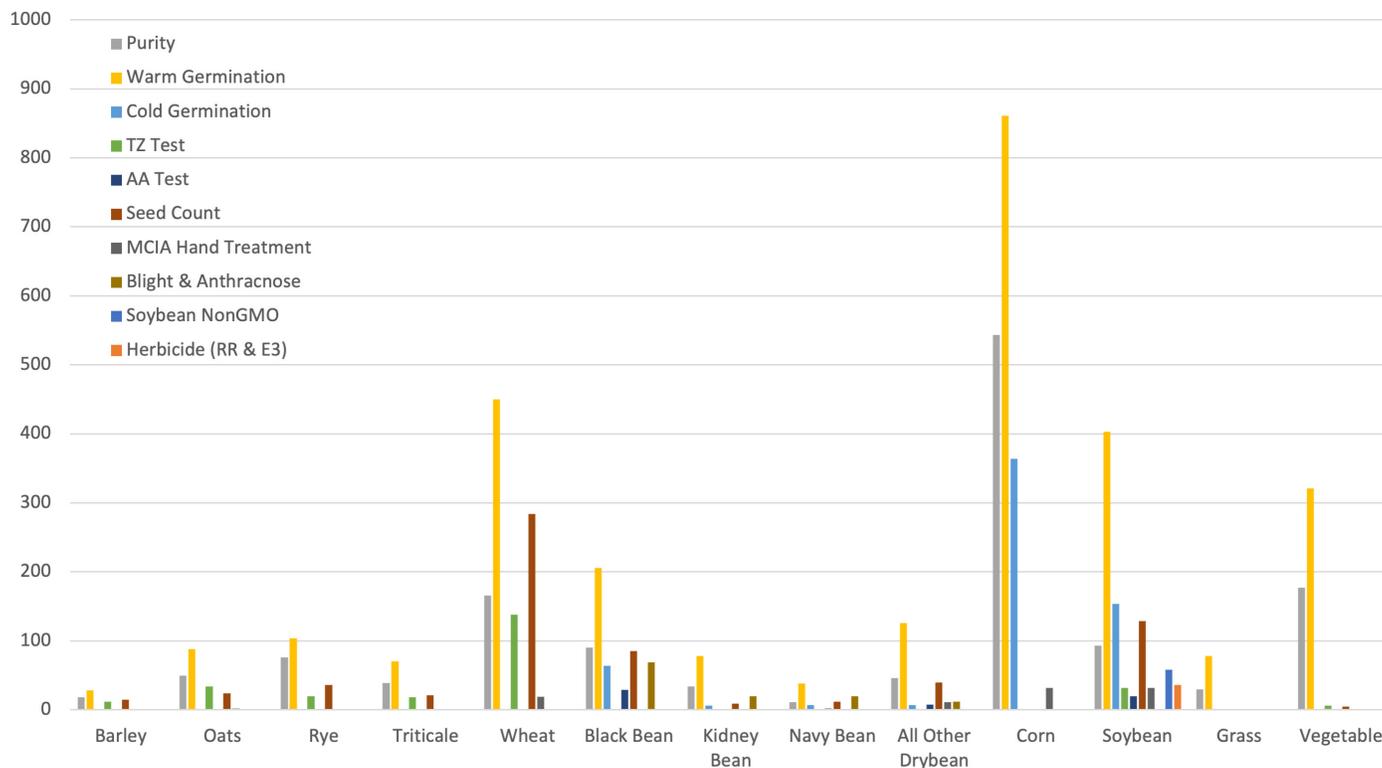
2025 Lab & Tag Income



Lab Testing Summary

JAN. 1 TO DEC. 31

2025 Total Number of Lab Tests Per Crop



CROP	PURITY	GERM	COLD TEST	TZ TEST	AA TEST	SEED COUNT	TREAT	BLIGHT / ANTH	SPECIAL / HERB	TOTAL TESTS
Barley	18	28		12		15				77
Oats	50	88		34		24	2			207
Rye	76	104		20		36				236
Triticale	39	70		18		21				149
Wheat	166	450		138		284	19			1,057
Black Bean	90	206	64		29	85		69		546
Kidney Bean	34	78	6		1	9		20		148
Navy Bean	11	38	7		2	12		20		90
All Other Drybean	46	126	7	1	8	40	11	12		253
Corn	543	861	364				32			1,825
Soybean	93	403	154	32	20	129	32		36	1,008
Grass	30	78								108
Vegetable	177	321		6		5	1			510
Oilseed	0	5								5
Small Legume	26	54								80
TOTAL	1,399	2,910	602	261	60	660	97	121	36	6,299

Tagging Summary

Crop	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Wheat	265,323	280,296	304,578	207,064	155,834	158,235	148,031
Oats	33,266	15,623	22,105	14,839	18,442	14,378	14,811
Barley	9,989	5,551	3,529	10,229	9,715	6,235	8,473
Rye	22,153	19,097	30,634	13,890	23,597	28,346	35,506
Triticale	-	23,722	30,263	29,040	46,408	43,936	45,386
Dry Bean	25,760	26,547	24,927	24,630	10,256	14,198	25,843
Soybean	11,321	9,678	12,772	6,118	8,521	5,925	5,129
Corn	682,192	693,273	429,556	567,261	523,878	426,422	387,669
Total	1,050,004	1,073,787	858,364	873,071	796,651	697,675	670,848

Year	Breeder & Parent	Foundation	Certified	QA	Service	OECD	Yearly Totals
2025	5,518	10,650	561,875	89,511	3,294	-	670,848
2024		16,480	174,779	90,889	800	-	697,675
2023		16,215	207,222	69,930	1,016	-	796,651
2022		14,354	214,593	94,911	2,810	-	873,071
2021		9,479	328,453	99,076	9,904	-	858,364
2020		23,800	343,783	44,014	5,001	-	1,073,787
2019		21,009	245,318	96,407	5,078	-	1,050,004
2018		15,457	273,682	96,770	4,850	-	993,655
2017		12,966	257,347	82,572	3,550	-	896,264
2016		28,645	267,485	93,748	3,417	-	985,099
2015		23,200	364,434	132,132	4,451	-	895,166
2014		24,522	307,969	100,903	8,470	-	1,068,830
2013		54,595	467,323	78,282	2,780	-	1,519,016
2012		38,749	748,192	115,488	7,036	20,644	1,237,385
2011		28,202	777,719	71,478	10,639	-	933,996
2010		56,640	915,493	60,022	6,544	-	1,258,399
2009		28,917	553,018	62,420	7,054	2,214	1,090,719

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Approved Producer Printed	300,403	189,139	170,840	153,139	148,845
MCIA Printed	128,405	116,671	101,934	118,114	134,334
Certified Corn Printed	429,556	567,261	523,878	426,422	387,669
Total Units Printed	858,364	873,071	796,651	697,675	670,848

2026 MCIA Pricing

Prices subject to change as determined by the MCIA board of directors

Purity (Includes MI Noxious)

Cereal Grains	\$19.00	Small Legumes	\$25.00
Corn	\$19.00	Soybeans	\$19.00
Dry Bean 1 & 2	\$19.00	Oilseed	\$25.00
Grass 1	\$35.00	Vegetable 1	\$28.00
Grass 2	\$40.00	Vegetable 2	\$30.00

Warm Germination

Cereal Grains	\$18.00	Small Legumes	\$20.00
Corn	\$18.00	Soybeans	\$18.00
Dry Bean 1	\$18.00	Oilseed	\$20.00
Dry Bean 2	\$27.00	Vegetable 1	\$27.00
Grass 1	\$27.00	Vegetable 2	\$30.00
Grass 2	\$33.00		

Other Tests

Accelerated Aging (AA)	\$20.00	Hand Treatment	\$8.00
Canadian M&P Evaluation	\$48.00	Roundup Herbicide	\$32.00
<i>Includes Purity & Germ (No Grading Report)</i>		Sand Germination	\$28.00
Cold Germination	\$20.00	Saturated Cold	\$31.00
Dry Bean Anthracnose	\$40.00	Seed Count	\$10.00
Dry Bean Bacterial Blight	\$50.00	Soybean Non-GMO	\$100.00
Dry Bean Mosaic	\$10.00	Soybean Varietal Purity	\$16.00
Enlist Herbicide	\$32.00	Test Weight	\$5.00
Extended Cold	\$20.00	Tetrazolium Test (TZ)	\$33.00
Fast Green	\$22.00		

*All tests are conducted according to AOSA Rules unless stated on the ROA

*Mixtures will have a \$50 per hour separation charge. Each component exceeding 5% will be charged individually.

*Dirty, uncleaned and/or low-quality samples are subject to a \$50 per hour charge at the Lab Directors discretion

Cereal Grains: Barley, buckwheat, millet, oats, red wheat, rice, rye, sorghum, spelt, triticale, white wheat and alike

Dry Bean 1: Adzuki Bean, baby lima bean, black bean, cowpea, DR kidney bean, garbanzo bean, great northern bean, LR kidney bean, mung bean, navy bean, otebo bean, pink bean, pinto bean, small red bean, white kidney bean, yellow bean, and alike

Dry Bean 2: Large lima bean, and alike

Grass 1: Annual ryegrass, bromegrass, creeping red fescue, hard fescue, orchardgrass, perennial ryegrass, tall fescue, and alike

Grass 2: Alkaligrass, big bluestem, Indiangrass, Kentucky bluegrass, rough bluegrass, switchgrass, teff, timothy, and alike

Small Legumes: Alfalfa, birdsfoot trefoil, crimson clover, field pea, hairy vetch, lentil, red clover, sweet clover, white clover, and alike

Oilseed: Camelina, canola, cotton, flax, hemp, mustard, sunflower, and alike

Vegetable 1: Chickpea, cucumber, garden bean, gourd, green bean, melon, pea, pumpkin, snap bean, snow pea, squash, watermelon, and alike

Vegetable 2: Arugula, basil, beet, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, celery, chia, chicory, chives, cilantro, dill, eggplant, kale, lettuce, onion, oregano, parsley, pepper, radish, spinach, sugar beet, tomato, and alike

Field Inspection Fees

Crop (application deadline)	Certification \$/acre	Quality Assurance \$/acre	Service \$/acre
Small Grains (May 15)	\$5.00	\$4.50	\$3.50
Corn (June 15)	\$12.00 (4 inspections)	\$12.00 (4 inspections)	Quote
Dry Beans (Aug. 15)	\$7.00	\$7.00	Quote
Soybeans (Aug. 15)	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$4.50 (2 inspections)

\$75 Late Fee | \$250 minimum for corn | \$50 minimum all other crops

The 2025 planting season started early but cold soils persisted through much of May due to the below normal temperatures. As has been customary in recent years, some areas received excessive rain early which delayed timely planting. Other areas were dry and able to plant the crop with minimal delays. As summer progressed, June and July trended closer to normal and crop progress rapidly advanced with adequate moisture to keep the crop moving along. Unfortunately, as the calendar turned to August, the rains diminished, shifting the crop outlook from potentially record breaking to one that was slightly above average.

Reviewing the individual crops in Michigan, wheat increased significantly from 400,000 in 2024 to 530,000 in 2025. Michigan set a record for the highest state average wheat yield at 90 bushels per acre (bpa). Wheat quality was good and growers were very pleased with the yields. In the Fall of 2025, growers planted about 550,000 acres of wheat for 2026 harvest. Harvested oat acres declined from 33,000 in 2024 to 21,000 in 2025, though yields improved to an estimated 72 bpa, up 6 bpa from the previous year. Soybean production declined slightly to 48.5 bpa down a half bushel from 2024. The planted acres dropped from 2.2 million to just under 2.1 million acres. Michigan corn acres were down slightly, bucking the national trend, at 2.35 million acres, with a yield averaging 178 bpa, compared to 181 the previous year. Dry bean planting consistent with 2024 at 250,000 acres with a yield of 2350 pounds per acre. Despite the drought conditions across much of the Thumb the dry bean yields were better than expected. Overall crop performance was mixed, and with continued pressure from low commodity prices, 2025 proved to be a challenging year for growers.

Foundation Seed sales were stable in 2025. Oat sales declined, while most of the other crop kinds were relatively flat, but all of them remained below their five-year moving averages. One notable trend was the increase in white wheat foundation sales, which rose from 34% of total sales in 2024 to 43% in 2025. Another point of interest among MCIA members was the introduction of new dry bean varieties Kona (black), Black Pearl (black) and Charro (pinto). 2025 marked the first year any quantity of Foundation seed was available of these lines. Early reports indicated that growers were pleased with their performances. We are also eagerly anticipating the release of a new navy bean variety from MSU, a full season, high yielding line with good agronomic and disease resistance. Be watching this one!

While our seed sales numbers were stable, our custom processing business took a step back in 2025. Poor organic crop performance limited growers' ability to deliver typical volumes for custom services and similar challenges affected our conventional custom processing customers. Additionally, the record income achieved in 2024 from this segment of our business created a lofty comparison which we anticipated would be difficult to match. Looking ahead to 2026 we are cautiously optimistic this work will rebound. Through our stringent quality program, we have built a strong trust with our customers who continue to rely on our services when their needs arise. Our commitment to quality was demonstrated by the successful completion of our 2025 BRC food safety audit. Our team received the highest possible rating in an unannounced audit which illustrates that commitment. We are proud of the team we have assembled and their dedication to providing top-tier quality and service to our members and customers.

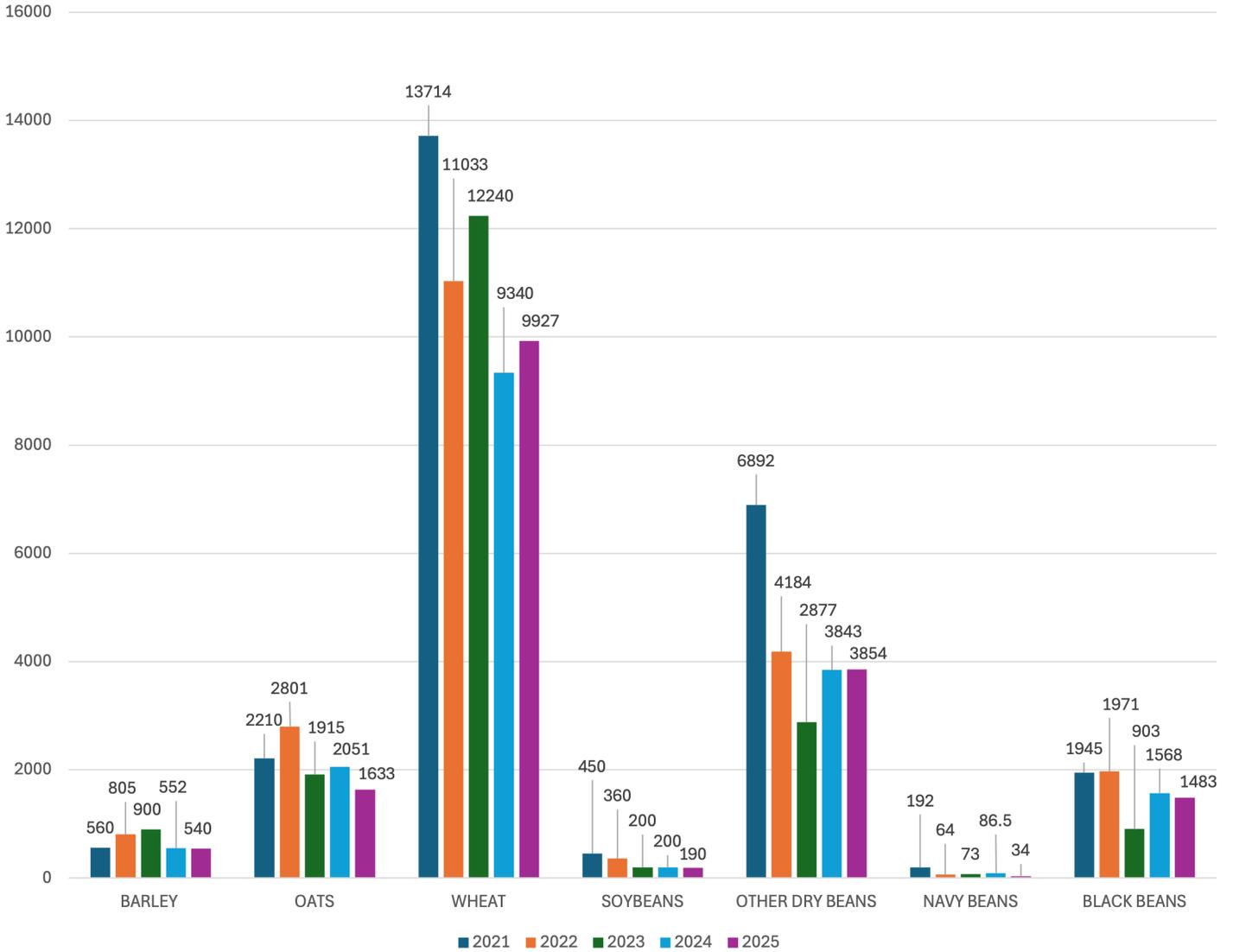
2025 was a year marked by early challenges, mixed growing conditions, and continued pressure from commodity markets. While overall crop performance varied across the state, Michigan growers once again showed their ability to adapt to difficult situations. While Foundation Seed sales dipped below recent averages, steady demand, particularly for new dry bean varieties, reflects the continued interest in our improved seed products from our seed growers. While our custom processing volumes declined from the prior year, the Foundation Division remains well positioned moving into 2026, supported by strong commitment from our customers who use our services. With a solid team in place and continued focus on service and meeting quality needs, we look ahead with excitement to see what 2026 will bring MCIA.

Sales History Report

Year	Units in Bushels			50 lb. Units		100 lb. Units		
	Barley	Malting Barley	Oats	Wheat	Soybeans	Other Dry Beans	Navy Beans	Black Beans
1992	1888	----	5858	34598*	13455*	3885	1629	523
1993	1611	----	7021	30880*	12052*	2932	2589	763
1994	1719	----	4245	28261*	12808*	3440	1416	690
1995	1209	----	4228	30609*	11131*	3240	1813	1403
1996	1155	----	4578	32593*	12046*	3287	2460	371
1997	1339	----	4444	31263*	9105*	3390	1705	360
1998	1377	----	5392	14643*	10926*	2103	546	772
1999	1448	----	3751	12043	9555*	1676	712	724
2000	863	----	3060	11868	6451	3658	444	451
2001	778	----	2211	14089	4977	4044	204	188
2002	714	----	2835	16300	4632	4725	207	596
2003	1015	----	2853	18400	4385	3384	189	465
2004	975	----	2896	18336	2782	4675	204	843
2005	1074	----	2896	17046	2431	4804	242	767
2006	1225	----	2526	18576	1615	3963	365	892
2007	740	----	1546	22739	1426	2363	201	1330
2008	1065	----	1833	22834	2018	3720	220	1360
2009	919	----	1817	18120	1396	4563	65	1369
2010	1005	----	1960	20045	2356	3518	111	2356
2011	1050	----	2357	19444	3245	2375	53	1794
2012	1071	----	1792	19319	2735	3311	30	1328
2013	1254	----	1947	17273	1574	3173	0	1251
2014	1131	----	1590	15949	557	5536	75	1977
2015	1635	405	2172	17717	580	7186	288	3447
2016	1064	639	1896	16132	609	3453	187	4429
2017	255	45	1439	14922	370	2360	73.5	3558
2018	479	120	1903	15191	864	2786	0	1116
2019	491	51	2094	16047	557	4532	0	1274
2020	561	6	2207	17136	467	5513	144	2065
2021	560	40	2210	13714	450	6892	192	1945
2022	805	0	2801	11033	360	4184	64	1971
2023	900	0	1915	12240	200	2877	73	903
2024	552	0	2051	9340	200	3843	86.5	1568
2025	540	0	1633	9927	190	3854	34	1483
5 yr avg.	671	8	2122	11251	280	4330	90	1574

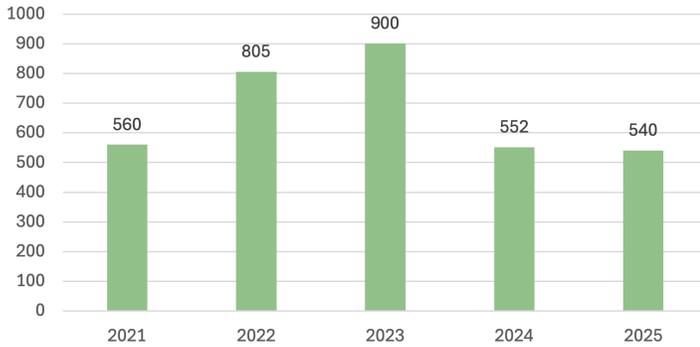
*denote units in Bushels

5 Year Seed Sales History

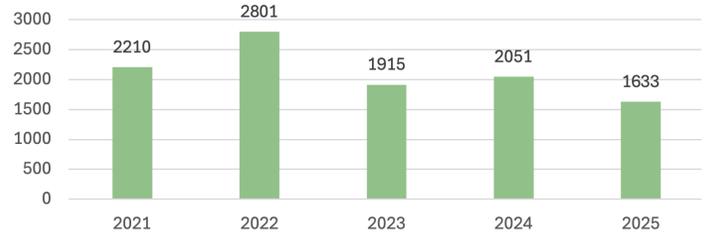


Sales History Report, cont'd

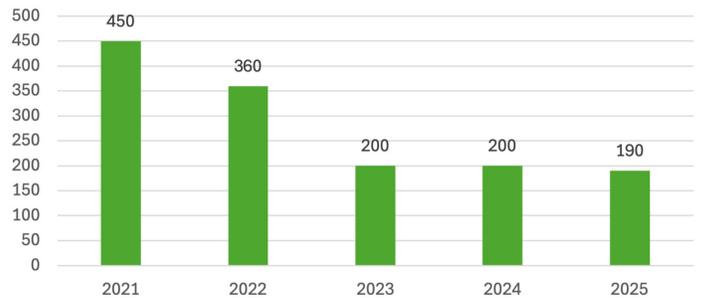
BARLEY
5 Year Seed Sales History



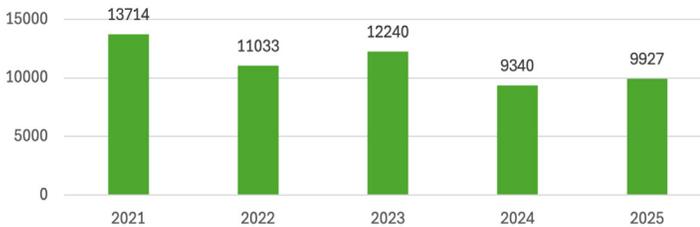
OATS
5 Year Seed Sales History



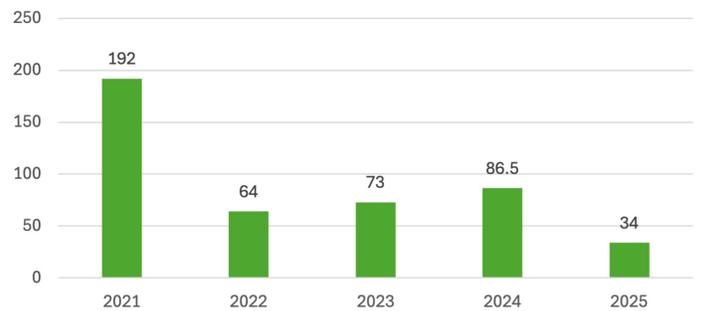
SOYBEANS
5 Year Seed Sales History



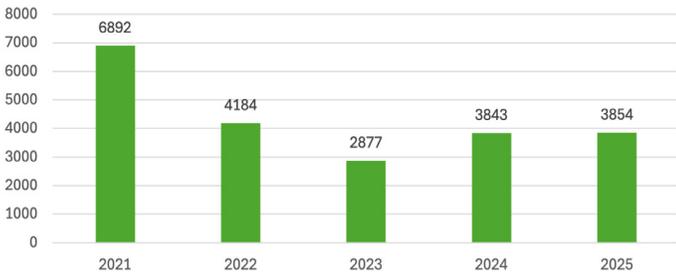
WHEAT
5 Year Seed Sales History



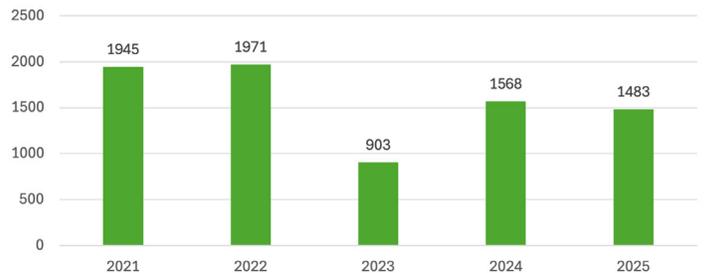
NAVY BEANS
5 Year Seed Sales History



Other Dry Beans
5 Year Seed Sales History



BLACK BEANS
5 Year Seed Sales History



New Seed Varieties

Black Pearl — BLACK BEAN

- » Upright plant type suitable for direct harvest.
- » Resistant to anthracnose.
- » High yielding black bean variety.
- » Medium maturity with good dry-down qualities.
- » Rates as one of the best beans for color retention and canning quality.

Kona — BLACK BEAN

- » Type-II upright plant suitable for direct harvest.
- » Consistently one of the highest yielding black bean varieties.
- » Maturity similar to Zenith and a day earlier than Black Beard.
- » Susceptible to anthracnose.
- » Acceptable seed size and canning scores.

N22616 — NAVY BEAN

- » Type-II upright plant suitable for direct harvest.
- » Consistently one of the highest yielding navy bean varieties.
- » Full season maturity.
- » Acceptable canning quality.
- » Resistant to Anthracnose.

SD Ranger — WHITE OAT

- » Released from South Dakota in 2024.
- » Good crown rust resistance.
- » Top end yields.
- » High test weight.
- » Average lodging scores.

Foundation Seed Pricing

Commodity	Non-Member Price	Member Discount Price	Research	Unit
Barley Seed (48#)	\$22.50	\$18.00	\$0.90	BUSHEL
Oat Seed (32#)	\$21.25	\$17.00	\$0.75	BUSHEL
Soybean Seed (50#)	\$60.00	\$48.00	\$1.04	50 LBS
Wheat Seed (50#)	\$35.00	\$28.00	\$1.04	50 LBS
Large Dry Bean Seed (100#)	\$228.75	\$183.00	\$4.50	100 LBS
Medium/Small Dry Bean Seed (100#)	\$210.00	\$168.00	\$4.50	100 LBS

2025/2026 Honorary Member

Raised on a cash crop farm near Akron, **Jeff Harrington** developed a lifelong dedication to agriculture from an early age. He graduated from Akron-Fairgrove High School in 1973 and furthered his education through Michigan State University's Elevator and Farm Supply program. During this time, he gained valuable hands-on experience working with Michigan Foundation Seed and Haney Seed Company in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Following his MSU training, he worked with Wm. Mueller & Son Colored Bean Elevator in Reese, Michigan, for two years, focusing on fertilizer and chemical sales as well as dry bean origination and quality control. In 1978, he began the purchase of Harrington Seeds, Inc. from his parents and successfully managed the business until its sale in 2022 to Steve and Dan Reinbold of Caro, Michigan—marking nearly 50 years of family-operated excellence in the seed industry.

While Jeff did not focus on a single crop, Harrington Seeds, Inc. built its tremendous reputation by running a clean, efficient plant and delivering the highest quality seed possible. Jeff especially looked forward to wheat cleaning time, appreciating the high volume and fast paced nature of the season. Jeff certified his first wheat crop in 1978, where he grew 18 acres of a white wheat variety named Tecumseh. He would later certify, process and sell the production on tens of thousands of acres of seed. He handled many crops including navy and black beans, soybeans, wheat, oats and barley, mostly for seed.

Jeff has actively contributed to the broader agricultural community through service on the Michigan Crop Improvement Association and Michigan Foundation Seed Boards, helping shape the state's seed certification and foundation programs. Jeff served on the Michigan Crop Improvement Board from 1982 to 1987. He also served on the MCIA quality control committee in 1993. In 1994 Jeff was elected to the Michigan Foundation Seed Board, and in 1995 he served as President, where he was instrumental in setting the wheels in motion for the merger between MCIA and MFSA which was completed in 1997. Commenting about his memories of time on the Board(s), Jeff stated, "I always enjoyed getting to know the plant breeders at MSU and learning firsthand about new varieties and their advantages. It was important to me to increase new lines quickly and make them available to Michigan growers as soon as possible."

Beyond his professional accomplishments Jeff takes great pride in his family. He married his wife, Lorraine in 1983, and together they raised three daughters—Kelley, Leah, and Abbey—all of whom reside in Michigan with their families. He is also a proud grandfather to six grandchildren, ranging in age from eight years to four months.

Jeff is still active in his community where he attends Reese Faith Community Church and belongs to the Richville Conservation Club. In his retirement, Jeff still enjoys fishing, hunting, golfing, and, of course, attending his grandchildren's sporting events.

Jeff, on behalf of the MCIA Board of Directors, please accept MCIA's highest honor, the MCIA Honorary Membership Award. Thanks for your years of service and dedication to the Association and your help in shaping the Michigan Seed Industry. Congratulations Jeff.

Past Honorary Members

Each year the MCIA Board of Directors chooses one or more deserving individuals who have donated their time to improve the Association and the certified seed industry and presents them with the MCIA Honorary Membership Award. Below is a list of past recipients:

1979	Stanley Woods	2001	Bill Renn
1980	Basil McKenzie	2002	Dr. Russ Freed
1981	Dr. Herbert Pettigrove	2003	Dr. James Kelly
1982	Norman R. Thompson	2004	David Woods
1983	Dr. Elmer Rossman	2005	Clare Harrington
1984	Dr. Everett Everson	2006	Larry Ivan, Ken Ivan
1985	Dr. Milo Tesar	2007	Steve McGuire
1986	Dr. Carter Harrison	2008	Kent Houghtaling
1987	Dr. Wayne Adams	2009	John Diehl
1988	Dr. Larry Copeland	2010	Dr. Douglas Buhler
1989	John Dreves	2011	George Zmitko
1990	Dr. Fred Saettler	2012	Robert Clarke
1991	Allan Houghtaling	2013	Robert Van Kampen
1992	Roy Greenia	2014	James Stein
1993	Dr. Robert Gast	2015	Mark Wittstock
1994	Richard Long	2016	Alan Schiellerd
1994	Charles Leipprandt	2017	Hauck Seed Farm
1995	Ken Rauscher	2018	Dr. James Kells
1995	Glen Harrington	2019	Greg Varner
1996	Chester Metz	2020	No Recipient
1996	Larry Metz	2021	Dennis Gibbs, Witt Seed Farm
1997	Don Keinath	2022	Randel H. Judd
1997	Wayne Sturm	2023	Paul Varner
1998	John Majzel	2024	William Irrer
1999	Don Reif	2025	Jeff Harrington
2000	Charles Rhode		



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