

INTRODUCTION

MCIA's Post-Spray Soybean Program is designed to provide field inspection services to seed producers to assist them in meeting soybean seed production requirements. This program is designed to meet the specific needs of each company's requirements for various herbicide applications. Because of the nature of these inspections, we recommend that applicants share this information with their contract growers to help them understand their responsibilities in the seed production process.

REQUIREMENTS

The following are general seed production requirements: (Refer to your Grower Agreement or Contract for specific details.)

- All seed production must be field inspected and meet genetic purity standards as defined by MCIA field standards (Seed Certification or Quality Assurance programs) or specific company standards (Field Inspect program). MCIA recommends varietal purity standard be at least 0.5% or less.
- Contract grower(s) will use the required herbicide specified within the Grower Agreement or Contract. This application(s) must be made during the proper growth stage(s) and at least at the minimum rate of herbicide required per the label.
- MCIA's post-spray standard is that at least 98% of the plants in the field must be tolerant to the herbicide applied.
- At a minimum 10 randomized counts of 500 plants will be made across the field.
- Field inspection will occur at the time frame specified by the applicant (seed company). If not specified, this inspection will take place between 5–14 days following the first application of herbicide.
- If the first herbicide application is determined to not be effective due to environmental effects, a second herbicide application at the maximum allowed rate per the label should be applied as soon as possible. Always read and follow instructions on the label. A second inspection is required in this case.
- Upon request, all licensing records, pedigrees, test results, spray records, inspection records, and other quality assurance or quality control documentation shall be available to the applicant (seed company) and/or MCIA.

PROCEDURES

- **Apply for field inspection** within three weeks of field being planted, but no later than June 7. Application must include grower's name and phone number and maps showing field locations.
- **Submit variety descriptions.** Complete and submit the *Application for New Soybean Varieties/Brands/Blends* form. Instructions for completing this form are available through MCIA.
- **Inform growers of herbicide application requirements.** Instruct growers to submit spray information to their MCIA Field Supervisor after herbicide applications have been made that day. Provide the applicant (seed company) name, grower name, county in which field is located, field number, variety/brand name, date sprayed, herbicide formulation, and rate applied.
- **A post-spray inspection** shall be performed as specified by the applicant. If no timeline is given the inspection will occur between 5–14 days following the first application of herbicide. The purpose of this inspection is to verify that the entire field has been sprayed and to check for dead plants. MCIA will document the growth stage and field conditions.
- **Inform grower** of results of post-spray field inspection including any corrections needed or other inspector recommendations.
- **A pre-harvest field inspection** shall be performed when the crop is approaching maturity after 75% of the leaves have dropped and as pods have matured. This inspection shall verify the varietal identity and identify any isolation or varietal mixture problems. If a field is ready to harvest and you are uncertain whether the field has been inspected, contact MCIA immediately. MCIA requests a two-day notice to perform pre-harvest inspections.
- **Inform grower** of results of pre-harvest field inspection including any corrections needed or other inspector recommendations.
- **Harvest field** after making required corrections using good seed production practices to prevent contamination and mechanical damage.