



Since 1903

May 18, 2016

To: Oat Producers and Conditioners

From: Fawad Shah, President/CEO

Subject: **Oat Electrophoresis Testing Requirement**

Effective July 1, 2016, electrophoresis testing will be required for certification of all classes of oats, including quality assurance (QA). An electrophoresis test will be required to verify varietal identity on samples of seed lots submitted for final certification. This test will be in addition to the currently required physical purity and germination tests.

The electrophoresis test will replace the currently used fluorescence test which can only distinguish between white and yellow oat varieties. The new test procedure will confirm varietal identity and prevent incorrect labeling. Oat lots certified previously and sold after July 1, 2016 will not need to undergo electrophoresis testing.

MCIA will be reopening the seed testing laboratory on July 1st. All certification and quality assurance samples will be required to be submitted to the MCIA Lab located at 1900 Hendon Ave, St. Paul, MN 55108. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Please call the office at 612-625-7766 if there are any questions.