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Minnesota Crop Improvement Association Announces 118th Annual Meeting

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA, January 6, 2021 The Minnesota Crop Improvement Association (MCIA) will convene its 118th annual meeting on January 13, 2021. The meeting, which all MCIA members are encouraged to attend, will be held virtually, via Zoom. For those who have not been able to attend an MCIA Annual Meeting in the past, this virtual meeting is an excellent opportunity to participate.

MCIA staff and board members will lead the meeting from the MCIA office in St. Paul, Minnesota. An informative, 2-hour program is planned for seed producers, conditioners, and representatives from agricultural industries. Along with MCIA's annual business meeting, the meeting program will include presentations by three seed industry experts and the announcement of MCIA's annual Premier and Honorary Premier Seedsmen awards and the Achievement in Crop Improvement Award.

Program Topics and Guest Speakers

- *Pandemic and Political Landscape: Impacts on the Seed Industry*
Andy LaVigne, President and CEO, American Seed Trade Association
- *Common Issues in Seed Testing*
Brent Turnipseed, Manager, SDSU Seed Testing Lab
- *Minnesota Department of Agriculture Update*
Denise Thiede, MDA Section Manager, Seed, Weed, Hemp, and Biotechnology

Meeting registration is free. Non-MCIA members are welcome to attend. Registration instructions, and other meeting details, are available on the annual meeting page of MCIA website: www.mncia.org/annual-meeting.

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Since 1903, Minnesota Crop Improvement Association (MCIA) has provided programs and services to meet the needs of an ever-changing agricultural world. These services include seed certification, organic certification, foundation seed production, and a variety of customized third-party verification programs for seed and identity-preserved grains. MCIA operates from facilities on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus with field staff located throughout Minnesota.

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If you would like more information on this topic, please contact Roger Wippler at 612-625-7766 or wipl002@umn.edu.