Focus on pulses

By Matt Nilsson, Managing Editor of Magazines for ASA, CSSA, and SSSA

In celebration of the International Year of Pulses (www.crops.org/iyp), our regional editors for this issue, John Heard (Manitoba Agriculture) and Patrick Carr (Montana State University), decided to focus on pulse crops with five of the six feature articles. The sixth article is on soybeans, which while technically not a pulse, has been championed by the pulse research, extension, and industry community in this region, and so the editors felt it appropriate to include. Pulse topics covered include the benefits of diversifying crop rotations with pulses, dry bean desiccation, how various input combinations affect field pea production, various aspects of producing faba bean, and how the rising popularity of lentils is raising some concerns related to weed and disease risks. To the right is a map of the Northern Great Plains and Prairies Pulses showing the top pulse and soybean acreage.

Also, in this issue, we’re including quizzes with the self-study CEU articles for your convenience. Let us know what you think!

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