

The Michigan Crop Improvement Association (MCIA) Board of Directors (BOD) announces that C. James Palmer will become the new Manager of MCIA beginning January 1, 2020. The Board recognizes and appreciates Jim's 24 years of leadership as MCIA's Foundation Seed Operations Manager and his commitment to lead the organization forward.

Bill Irrer, MCIA BOD president, states "Jim has done a tremendous job of overseeing the foundation seed division of the organization with keen insight to make the division fiscally responsible while introducing a great number of new seed varieties to the MCIA membership. Many of the new wheat, oat, and dry bean varieties which are now available to Michigan growers would not be an option if not for Jim's ongoing commitment in seeking out the best of class. We are very excited Jim has agreed to lead our organization into the future."

Jim is a 1993 graduate of Michigan State University having earned a BS in Agri-Business. Jim and his wife live near Fowlerville with their two sons where they enjoy their quiet country setting.

Current manager, Randy Judd will be retiring at the beginning of 2020 following 37 years of service to MCIA. Randy's steady hand at the helm of the organization will be missed as will his commitment to the seed industry throughout Michigan and globally. Randy and his wife Marsha plan to enjoy their retirement years travelling to all points of the compass.