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Short Form

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

2014

Open to Public Inspection

Form 990-EZ

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public. Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

A For the 2014 calendar year, or tax year beginning August 1, 2014, and ending July 31, 2015

B Check if applicable

- Address change
Name change
Initial return
Final return/terminated
Amended return
Application pending

C Name of organization

Western Seed Association

Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address)

13 Prairie Vista Court

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

Bloomington, IL 61704-8903

Room/suite

D Employer identification number

23-7428722

E Telephone number

309-664-0606

F Group Exemption Number

G Accounting Method: Cash Accrual Other (specify)

I Website:

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) - 501(c)(3) 501(c) ( 5 ) 4947(a)(1) or 527

H Check if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets

(Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. \$ 122269

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

Table with 21 rows and 3 columns: Description, Line Number, Amount. Includes Revenue (1-9), Expenses (10-17), and Net Assets (18-21).

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat. No. 106421

Form 990-EZ (2014)

SCANNED FEB 23 2016

SCANNED OCT 22 2015

SCANNED

Handwritten number 18

**Part II Balance Sheets** (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments . . . . .	350767	22 370137
23 Land and buildings . . . . .	0	23 0
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	0	24 0
25 Total assets . . . . .	350767	25 370137
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	0	26 0
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21) . . . . .	350767	27 370137

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments** (see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? Provides scholarships & meetings for members

**Expenses**  
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

28 <u>Ten (10) scholarships - six (6) universities</u>		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	20000
29		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	29a	
30		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	30a	
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	31a	
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	20000

**Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees** (list each one even if not compensated—see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Wendell Howard - Warner Seeds President		0	0	0
Garth Kaste - Kaste Seed 1st Vice President		0	0	0
R. David Pearl - The Cisco Co. 2nd Vice President		0	0	0
Fred Mohr - Seedway LLC Secretary		0	0	0
Bill Talley - Summit Seed Coatings Secretary		0	0	0
Jesse R. Smart - Smart Seed Co. Exec. Dir. / Treasurer		0	0	0
Bob O'Donnell Past President / Bd. Mbr.		0	0	0
Terry Peters Past President / Bd. Mbr.		0	0	0
Mike Baker Past President / Bd. Mbr.		0	0	0
Susan Smart - Ind. Contractor Prog. Dir. / Administrator		33000	0	0

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O . . . . .		✓
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions) . . . . .		✓
35a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)? . . . . .		✓
b	If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O . . . . .		
35b			
c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III . . . . .		✓
35c			
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N . . . . .		✓
36			
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ▶ <b>37a</b> _____		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year? . . . . .		✓
37b			
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return? . . . . .		✓
38a			
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved . . . . .		
38b			
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 . . . . .		
39a			
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities . . . . .		
39b			
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ▶ _____ ; section 4912 ▶ _____ ; section 4955 ▶ _____		
b	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .		
40b			
c	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 . . . . . ▶ _____		
d	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization . . . . . ▶ _____		
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T . . . . .		✓
40e			
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ▶ _____		
42a	The organization's books are in care of ▶ <u>Jesse &amp; Susan Smart</u> Telephone no. ▶ <u>309-664-0606</u> Located at ▶ <u>13 Prairie Vista Court, Bloomington, IL</u> ZIP + 4 ▶ <u>61704-8903</u>		
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		✓
42b			
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U.S.? . . . . . If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____		✓
42c			
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041—Check here . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year . . . . . ▶ <b>43</b> _____		
43			
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . .		✓
44a			
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . .		✓
44b			
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year? . . . . .		✓
44c			
d	If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O . . . . .		
44d			
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? . . . . .		✓
45a			
b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions) . . . . .		✓
45b			

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I . . . . .  Yes  No

**Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only**

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI . . . . .

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II . . . . .  Yes  No

48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E . . . . .  Yes  No

49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? . . . . .  Yes  No

b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? . . . . .  Yes  No

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A . . . . .  Yes  No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

**Sign Here**  Signature of officer: Jesse R. Smart Date: Oct 9, 2015  
 Type or print name and title: Jesse R. Smart, Exec. Director/Treasurer

**Paid Preparer Use Only** Print/Type preparer's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preparer's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check  if self-employed PTIN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Firm's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Firm's EIN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Firm's address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone no.: \_\_\_\_\_

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions . . . . .  Yes  No

**SCHEDULE O  
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

OMB No. 1545-0047

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

**2015**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

**Open to Public  
Inspection**

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

Name of the organization

Employer identification number

Western Seed Association

23-7428722

**Page 1 - Part I**

Item 10 - Scholarships to 10 students in IA, KS, MO, NE, OR and TX @ \$2000. each = \$20,000.

Item 16 - Other expenses include payments for annual convention, computer/internet services, bank service changes and dues.

**Part 2 - Part III**

Item 28 - Scholarships to University students in IA, KS, MO, NE, OR and TX

Casey Engen \$2000.

Ryan Reimers 2000.

Jeana Bane 2000.

Kaitlin Flick 2000.

Nathan Wabs 2000.

Kaylynn Wieskamp 2000.

Sam Knauss 2000.

Nathan Larson 2000.

John Beitel 2000.

University of TX - Ag Scholarship 2000.

Total - Item 28 \$20,000.

Item 32 - Total program service expenses \$20,000.