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For **990-EZ**

Short Form

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-1150

2015

Open to Public Inspection

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

▶ 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.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning **August 1**, 2015, and ending **July 31**, 2016

- 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) Room/suite
13 Prairie Vista Court

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
Bloomington, IL 61704-8903

D Employer identification number
23-7428722

E Telephone number
309-664-0606

F Group Exemption Number ▶

G Accounting Method: Cash Accrual Other (specify) ▶

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

I Website: ▶

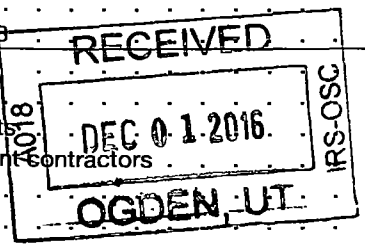
J Tax-exempt status (check only one) – 501(c)(3) 501(c) (5) ◀ (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

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. ▶ \$ **129823**

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

		1	2	3	4	5a	5b	5c	6a	6b	6c	6d	7a	7b	7c	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received															1065												
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts															73260												
	3	Membership dues and assessments															54855												
	4	Investment income															643												
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory																											
	5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses																											
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)															0												
	6	Gaming and fundraising events																											
	6a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)																											
	6b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)																											
6c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events																												
6d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)															0													
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances																												
7b	Less: cost of goods sold																												
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)															0													
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)															0													
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8															129823													
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)															20000												
	11	Benefits paid to or for members															0												
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits															0												
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors															33000												
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance															1405												
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping															9247												
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)															32890												
	17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16															96542												
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)															33281												
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)															370137												
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)															0												
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20															403418												



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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	370137	22 403418
23 Land and buildings	0	23 0
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	0	24 0
25 Total assets	370137	25 403418
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)	370137	27 403418

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

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

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

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
<u>Garth Kaste</u> <u>President</u>		0	0	0
<u>R. David Pearl</u> <u>1st Vice-President</u>		0	0	0
<u>Fred Mohr</u> <u>2nd Vice-President</u>		0	0	0
<u>Bill Talley</u> <u>Secretary</u>		0	0	0
<u>Matt Malin</u> <u>Secretary</u>		0	0	0
<u>Jesse R. Smart</u> <u>Exec. Director/Treasurer</u>		0	0	0
<u>Terry Peters</u> <u>Past President/Board Member</u>		0	0	0
<u>Mike Baker</u> <u>Past President/Board Member</u>		0	0	0
<u>Wendell Howard</u> <u>Past President/Board Member</u>		0	0	0
<u>Susan Smart - Ind. Contractor</u> <u>Prog. Dir./Administrator</u>		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		
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		✓
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		✓
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ▶ 37a _____		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		✓
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?		✓
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 & 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 ▶ 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
46		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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
47		

48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E

	Yes	No
48		

49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?

	Yes	No
49a		

b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?

	Yes	No
49b		

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: *Nov. 26 2016*
 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)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

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

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

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

OMB No. 1545-0047

2016

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization

Western Seed Association

Employer identification number

23-7428722

Page 1 - Part 1

Item 10 - Scholarships to 10 students in IA, KS, MO, NE, OR and MN @ \$2,000 each = \$20,000

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

Page 2 - Part III

Item 28 - Scholarships to university students in IA, KS, MO, NE, OR and MN

Brianne Bier \$2,000

Matthew LeVan 2,000

Ben Coomes 2,000

Samantha L'Ecuyer 2,000

Alexandria Berghaus 2,000

Gatlin E. K. Bunton 2,000

Dylan Mangel 2,000

Cale Pallas 2,000

Dustin Welters 2,000

Dillan Smith 2,000

Total - Item 28 \$20,000

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