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The Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers places a high priority on legislative issues such as crop insurance, the farm bill, wheat research funds and water and other environmental issues.

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Choose the type of membership that is best for you and your farm operation. Call the MAWG office at 218-253-4311 to join.

Visit mnwheat.org to join today.



PUBLISHER

Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers
2600 Wheat Drive • Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
218.253.4311 • Email: mnwheat@mnwheat.com
Web: www.mnwheat.org

EDITORIAL

Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers
2600 Wheat Drive • Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
Ph: 218.253.4311
Email: mnwheat@mnwheat.com

CIRCULATION

2600 Wheat Drive • Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
Ph: 218.253.4311
Email: mnwheat@mnwheat.com

ADVERTISING SALES

Marlene Dufault
2604 Wheat Drive • Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
Ph: 218.253.2074
Email: mdufault@gvtel.com

ABOUT PRAIRIE GRAINS

Prairie Grains magazine is published seven times annually and delivered free of charge to members of these grower associations, and to spring wheat and barley producers in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana. To subscribe or change address, please write or call our circulation department.



Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers
and Minnesota Wheat Council
2600 Wheat Drive • Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
218.253.4311 • Email: mnwheat@mnwheat.com
Web: www.mnwheat.org



North Dakota Grain Growers Association
1002 Main St. W. #3 • West Fargo, ND 58078
Phone: 701.282.9361 • Fax: 701.239.7280
Email: danw@ndgga.com • Web: www.ndgga.com



South Dakota Wheat Inc.
116 N. Euclid, Box 667 • Pierre, SD 58501
605.224.4418 • Email: wheatinc@midco.net



Montana Grain Growers Association
P.O. Box 1165 • Great Falls, MT 59403 • 406.761.4596
Email: mgga@mgga.org • Web: www.mgga.org

PRAIRIE GRAINS

August 2019 | Issue 171

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On the Cover: Harvest of an ESN (a slow release coating on urea) trial from a previous season of MN Wheat's On-Farm Research Network (OFRN). Featured is their old method of collecting a grain sample to test for protein. Now the OFRN uses a tube with a shut off valve welded onto a weigh wagon with an auger.

This year's OFRN trial results will be covered at the Prairie Grains Conference this December and posted on mnwheat.org. Results will include, long-term increased phosphorus and potassium, nitrification inhibitor – Centuro, sulfur, variable rate nitrogen, seeding rate, flag leaf fungicide, on-combine protein analyzer, preliminary results on a cover crop trial, along with a few trials focused on soybeans.



Stay in Your Lane

Family reunion season, and you spent the picnic sitting next to Second Cousin Sally, who lives in a suburb with her kids, designer dog and uses the 4WD on her SUV when it rains. Sally is also a professional internet researcher who knows that GMOs are bad and offers you helpful advice on how you should be farming. It was the longest meal of your life. When you get in the car to leave, you tell your spouse “Sally needs to stay in her lane. She knows nothing about farming.”

And you are right. Sally needs to stay in her lane, mind her own business, and stop pretending to be an expert in something she knows nothing about.

Now I would like you to grab a mirror, take a long look at yourself, and see if there’s a little bit of Sally in you.

This spring, it was a disaster in the Corn Belt, and prices responded accordingly. The corn market especially rallied far and fast, almost a dollar in just a month. And still, most farmers found themselves pretending to be grain traders instead of farmers. Instead of saying “Wow, I can get over \$4 for my corn” farmers started pretending they were grain traders and predicting the market was going to 5, 6, or even 7 dollars. It’s not your job to predict the market. It’s your job to sell your crop. Corn rallied almost a dollar and soy-

beans rallied over a dollar! I will admit the fifty cent Minneapolis wheat rally was disappointing, but at least it was something.

As a farmer, you need to focus on the job of selling your crop, not price prediction. Remember you are a farmer, not a grain trader, and keep repeating that to yourself over and over. Look in the mirror and see if you are a farmer, or a farmer pretending to be a grain trader. I know there were many farmers who bought call options or futures, or some combination of trades they really didn’t understand.

This spring we all knew corn prices could never go down (famous last words)

and there were many times I heard “Buy a call and sell 2 puts to pay for the call.” That is not something a farmer should do! I will disagree with brokers and analysts every day about those complicated strategies. The only winner in complicated strategies are the brokers who receive commissions.

When prices are rallying, like they did this spring, and like they will again, farmers pretend to become grain traders. In the Northern Plains, we were fortunate to have our crop mostly planted. Delayed, and cold, but at least it was in the ground. I wish I would have sold more, but I am thankful I sold something.

Your job is to raise a crop, and sell the crop. Stay in your lane! Stop pretending you’re a grain trader. If you really want to speculate with futures and options, pick something you don’t raise such as cotton, lean hogs, or natural gas.

Don’t mingle your speculation with farming. You are a great farmer. If you are like most farmers, you are a horrible grain trader.

When the market rallies again, which it will, stay in your lane, and do your job of selling the crop.

smallgrains.org is now.....

MNWheat.org

**Same great information, just a new web address.
No need to do anything different, you will be
automatically redirected.
Be sure to save it in your favorites!**

Comments from the MN Wheat Executive Director

By Charlie Vogel

August is here already, and I have been on the job as Executive Director for MN Wheat for three months now. During that time my family and I have relocated to Thief River Falls, MN. My wife, Sarah, is excited to be the Elementary Music Teacher in Plummer, MN starting this fall. My daughters, Rebecca (13) and Lenore (5), are anxious to start the school year in Thief River Falls, get to know the area, and meet new friends.

As my daughters are busy meeting new friends, my time at MN Wheat has been spent in a similar endeavor. Over the past three months I have met dedicated professionals striving to improve the agricultural industry and the viability of producers. Times are not easy in agriculture. Input costs only seem to increase while commodity prices refuse to keep pace. Trade policy and politics are divisive, quick to point the finger, but slow to take the difficult actions that precipitate long lasting change and opportunity.

Mother Nature is always a concern in agriculture. Too little or not enough rain, ill-timed storms, or extreme temperature are always top-of-mind. So much is out of our control. However, this is an exciting time to be involved in agriculture and the wheat industry. While our challenges are great, the opportunity is too.

At no point in history has the rate of change been so

great and it shows no signs of slowing. This rate of change will bring disruption. Disruption is often camouflage for opportunity.

Throughout my career in agriculture I have worked alongside producers from Idaho, Colorado, Nebraska, North Dakota, and now Minnesota. Across the country I have found farmers to be accurately characterized by terms like: hard working, integrity, family first, community minded, salt-of-the-earth.... No matter the hardship, these men and women stoically face the challenge and give it their all. The world thanks them, although not always vocally, for the endeavor of feeding the world, reducing world hunger, and increasing the standard of living worldwide.

However, over the last decade, net farm income has continued to decline despite increases in yield and quality in most cases. Issues from international trade policy to domestic fad diets directly impact wheat producers.

What has been new to me is the vast array of industry associations and groups such as MN Wheat, dedicated to assisting the American Farmer achieve success. As a result of these efforts, the good news is that MN Wheat producers are not in this fight alone! The efforts of commodity organizations and their staffs to promote, educate, and advocate for the American Farmer and the commodities they



Charlie and Sarah Vogel family

produce is nothing short of remarkable. MN Wheat is proud to be actively working with, and alongside, many of these organizations to leverage our membership and influence to aid in that process. Over the past three months I have had the privilege to work alongside organizations dedicated to sustained grower success. Organizations such as: US Wheat Associates promoting international trade, National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) as an instrumental organization in working to implement policy and pass trade legislation, Wheat Foods Council striving to develop domestic markets and educate urban consumers, and countless other organizations dedicated to supporting agriculture producers. MN Wheat looks forward to sustained collaborative efforts with these groups, and others, to continually promote the story of American agriculture through wheat production.

As I begin my fourth month with MN Wheat, I look forward to getting to know more of you, the producers. The more involved producers become, the more power and leverage is provided to these organizations working to further producers' interests. Time is scarce, but I encourage each of you to get involved in an organization that is actively promoting agriculture. Change is slow and frustrating, but it's through producer involvement in organizations, from local FFA Alumni chapters to MN Wheat Associates, that eventually brings about positive change. Disruption and change bring opportunity, but rarely is it comfortable or painless.

Involvement in these organizations also provides reassurance that no one ever goes solo. Together we will get through this rough patch and be stronger for it on the other side.

2019 North Dakota Wheat Varieties

SY Ingmar is the leading spring wheat variety in North Dakota for 2019. SY Ingmar accounts for 20.6 percent of the 6.50 million acres of spring wheat planted in 2019. SY Valda ranks second with 12.5 percent of the spring wheat acreage. Bolles represents 5.0 percent of the spring wheat planted and now ranks third. SY Soren ranks fourth with 4.7 percent of the spring wheat acres planted. Elgin-ND accounts for 4.2 percent of the spring wheat acreage and ranks fifth. These top five varieties account for 47.0 percent of the spring wheat planted in 2019. North Dakota continues to rank first in spring wheat acreage in the United States, with 52.3 percent of the nation's estimated 12.4 million acres planted.

Joppa is the leading Durum wheat variety in North Dakota during 2019 for the third year in a row. Joppa

accounts for 30.2 percent of the 700,000 acres planted compared with 24.1 in 2018 and 18.0 percent in 2017.

Divide again ranks second with 21.2 percent of the durum wheat acres planted. Alkabo and Carpio rank third and fourth, respectively, with 7.8 and 6.1 percent of the Durum wheat acres planted. VT Peak ranks fifth with 6.0 percent. These top five varieties account for 71.3 percent of the Durum wheat acreage in North Dakota for 2019. North Dakota continues to rank first in Durum wheat planted acreage in the United States with 50.0 percent of the nation's estimated 1.40 million acres planted.

SY Wolf is now the leading winter wheat variety planted in North Dakota for 2019. SY Wolf accounts for 24.1 percent of the winter wheat acreage in North Dakota. Jerry and Willow

Creek respectively account for 13.4 and 8.6 percent of the winter wheat acres planted. These three varieties account for 46.1 percent of the 90,000 acres planted in North Dakota for 2019.

SPRING WHEAT

SY Ingmar is the top variety in North Dakota for 2019 with 20.6 percent of the 6.50 million acres of spring wheat planted. It is the leading spring wheat variety planted in the northwest, north central, west central, central, southwest, and south central districts. SY Ingmar was released by Syngenta/AgriPro in 2014 and has semi-dwarf height, strong straw strength, high grain protein, medium-maturity, and good milling and baking quality.

SY Valda ranks second with 12.5 percent of the spring wheat planted. It is the leading spring wheat variety planted in the northeast, east central, and southeast districts. Released in 2015 by Syngenta/AgriPro, SY Valda has semi-dwarf height, very good straw strength, medium-late maturity, very good disease tolerance, and average milling and baking quality.

Bolles ranks third with 5.0 percent of the spring wheat planted. Released in 2015 by the University of Minnesota, Bolles has high protein, medium straw strength, medium height, and excellent baking quality. SY Soren ranks fourth with 4.7 percent of the spring wheat planted. Released in

2011 by Syngenta/AgriPro, SY Soren has semi-dwarf height, strong straw strength, medium-early maturity, and good milling and baking quality.

SURVEY DESCRIPTION

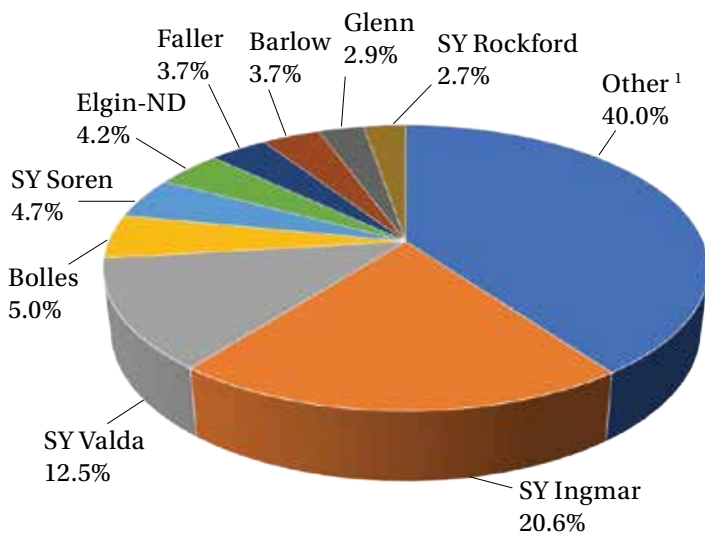
The data in this report are based on a survey of wheat producers conducted during June by the North Dakota Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Thank you to each person who supplied data and made this report possible!

Results include acreage and percentages at the State and Agricultural Statistics District levels. All variety acreage numbers in this publication are based on survey averages. Highly reliable state averages are produced from 2,229 positive reports from 4,350 respondents. At the district level, the number of reports for minor varieties is generally limited. Thus, yearly fluctuations in the district variety acreage may be the result of sample variation. The ND Wheat Commission, the ND Ag Experiment Station, and the ND State Seed Department provided funding for this survey. The NDSU Extension Service provided variety descriptions. Access to this report is available for free online at www.ndwheat.com or www.nass.usda.gov/nd/

Compiled and published by USDA, NASS, and the North Dakota Field Office.

Spring Wheat Varieties | Percent of Acreage Planted
North Dakota: 2019



¹ Other includes varieties not listed and unknown varieties.

**Spring Wheat Varieties, Percent and Acreage Planted
North Dakota: 2019**

(Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.)

Variety	Northwest	North Central	Northeast	West Central	Central	East Central	Southwest	South Central	Southeast	State
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
SY Ingmar	28.5	26.4	7.5	23.5	26.1	12.9	20.7	28.7	13.5	20.6
SY Valda	9.7	19.0	20.7	5.8	11.5	17.2	5.3	4.5	15.6	12.5
Bolles	4.0	5.5	5.3	3.7	6.9	1.0	4.5	1.7	12.8	5.0
SY Soren	6.1	3.8	0.2	9.7	5.8	1.4	9.4	1.8	6.3	4.7
Elgin-ND	2.4	2.0	-	7.2	4.7	0.2	10.1	11.1	1.6	4.2
Faller	0.8	3.7	14.2	-	1.0	1.8	-	-	3.8	3.7
Barlow	5.4	5.1	-	5.2	0.2	0.2	7.9	7.7	0.4	3.7
Glenn	5.4	2.3	0.1	7.0	1.6	1.1	4.8	2.4	2.1	2.9
SY Rockford	7.7	1.0	0.1	3.5	0.4	-	4.5	5.7	-	2.7
WB 9479	1.3	1.1	5.4	-	3.3	7.8	1.1	2.0	3.8	2.7
Linkert	0.2	2.2	8.1	0.8	3.4	5.3	-	1.1	0.6	2.7
Shelly	0.4	3.5	2.5	0.2	4.7	4.7	1.5	1.9	5.2	2.5
HRS 3530	0.5	6.9	3.9	0.1	0.2	4.8	0.4	2.9	0.8	2.3
Prosper	3.0	3.6	2.1	0.6	0.4	-	0.6	-	3.6	1.7
WB 9590	0.4	0.4	2.4	1.3	2.1	5.4	0.8	-	1.5	1.4
Rollag	0.4	4.3	1.8	0.8	0.5	5.4	-	-	0.5	1.4
ND VitPro	1.4	0.1	0.7	0.6	1.7	2.1	4.8	-	0.3	1.3
WB Mayville	-	0.5	2.7	-	1.7	4.9	0.8	-	0.8	1.2
Velva	0.3	0.9	2.8	0.4	1.5	1.3	1.4	-	0.6	1.1
TCG Spitfire	0.7	0.4	2.0	3.0	0.4	0.8	1.1	-	-	1.0
Other varieties	21.5	7.5	17.6	26.6	21.6	21.9	20.3	28.5	26.3	20.7
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
SY Ingmar	267.8	206.2	90.8	150.4	159.3	49.0	155.4	192.6	70.1	1,341.6
SY Valda	91.0	148.1	250.0	37.1	70.2	65.2	39.5	30.0	81.1	812.2
Bolles	37.6	42.8	63.6	23.8	42.3	3.7	33.9	11.5	66.8	326.0
SY Soren	57.2	29.3	2.8	61.8	35.3	5.2	70.4	12.0	32.8	306.8
Elgin-ND	22.8	15.8	-	45.9	28.9	0.9	76.0	74.1	8.4	272.8
Faller	7.1	28.8	172.1	-	5.9	6.7	-	-	19.6	240.2
Barlow	50.4	39.8	-	33.1	1.0	0.9	59.1	51.7	1.9	237.9
Glenn	50.3	18.0	1.2	44.7	9.9	4.1	36.2	15.8	10.8	191.0
SY Rockford	72.4	7.6	0.2	22.4	2.6	-	34.1	38.2	-	177.5
WB 9479	12.0	8.7	65.5	-	20.3	29.6	8.2	13.1	19.7	177.1
Linkert	2.1	17.2	97.5	5.0	21.0	20.0	-	7.7	3.3	173.8
Shelly	3.9	27.0	30.7	1.4	28.5	17.8	11.6	12.4	26.8	160.1
HRS 3530	4.8	53.8	47.0	0.8	1.2	18.3	2.9	19.6	3.9	152.3
Prosper	28.3	27.9	25.8	4.1	2.5	-	4.3	-	18.5	111.4
WB 9590	3.9	3.3	28.7	8.2	13.1	20.5	5.8	-	7.9	91.4
Rollag	4.2	33.6	21.5	5.0	3.1	20.6	-	-	2.6	90.6
ND VitPro	13.4	0.3	8.8	4.0	10.4	8.0	35.8	-	1.8	82.5
WB Mayville	-	4.0	33.0	-	10.4	18.6	5.8	-	4.4	76.2
Velva	2.7	6.7	34.1	2.4	9.1	4.8	10.6	-	2.9	73.3
TCG Spitfire	6.3	3.2	23.9	19.4	2.7	3.0	8.2	-	-	66.7
Other varieties	201.8	57.9	212.8	170.5	132.3	83.1	152.2	191.3	136.7	1,338.6
All varieties	940.0	780.0	1,210.0	640.0	610.0	380.0	750.0	670.0	520.0	6,500.0

Strength in Numbers: The Value of Belonging to a National Association

Many aspects of production agriculture in the upper Midwest are beyond the wheat grower's control; but one aspect that has considerable effect on how we operate each year is within our power to control; our representation in Washington D.C. Currently, Congress is made up of 535 representatives, the vast majority of whom don't have any experience in agriculture. They have the power to decide whether vital programs, like those in the farm bill, make its way to farmers. The list of tasks a wheat grower needs to complete each week seems endless, and doesn't afford much time to navigate the halls of Capitol Hill and share our story with Members and their staff.

This is why wheat farmers need representation in Washington, D.C. like the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG). I know how to be a wheat farmer, but I am not an expert on the inner workings of a congressional office. NAWG houses this expertise and has connections with Congressional members and their staff who influence our industry. NAWG's location allows them to advocate on Capitol Hill whenever it is needed, and their clout gives all NAWG members access to key Republican and Democratic congressional offices and Administration officials that we wouldn't have on our own.

It was clear that the D.C. office was essential in

making sure the 2018 Farm Bill priorities of wheat growers were communicated to the Senate and House Agriculture Committees. This was evident given the many wins the final bill included for wheat. For example, it met NAWG's top priority of maintaining a strong crop insurance title. In fact, to strengthen the program, the bill included a provision directing the Risk Management Agency to develop a new approach to quality adjustment. NAWG



I am proud to be a member of NAWG and think it's essential for wheat growers to remember that we are all in this together.

successfully advocated for improvements to the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. Beginning with this crop year we can select which program to participate in, and in 2021 we'll be able to pick every year. Another NAWG priority in this past farm bill was to make improvements to the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative.

Farmers in our area know all too well how devastating an outbreak of scab can be. Staying vigilant against this disease has always been very important, and with the help of other states in the NAWG organization, an increase in funding of scab research was achieved.

Outside of the Farm Bill, NAWG has also been working hard to share the importance of trade to the President and key Congressional leadership. Leaders of NAWG personally met with the President as trade mitigation payments were announced and had conversations about the importance of trade with White House staff. Additionally, NAWG staff have spoken directly to Speaker Pelosi and her senior staff on the importance of trade on multiple



Tim Osowski

immediate access to any news or developments that affect our industry. The association provides weekly updates, policy memos, quarterly reports, social media and lobbying toolkits, and other resources that help growers stay on top of recent developments. The combined resources of NAWG's 20-state membership can be used to guide legislators more positively towards the goals of the association.

When a wheat producer is a member of MN Association of Wheat Growers (MAWG), they are also a member of NAWG. I am proud to be a member of NAWG and think it's essential for wheat growers to remember that we are all in this together. There really is strength in numbers. NAWG is busy working in D.C. to defend my livelihood while I live it on my farm.

By Tim Osowski. Tim is on the board of directors for the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers. He farms near Argyle, MN.

New U.S. Wheat Associates Officers Begin Terms at 2019 Annual Meeting

The U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) Board of Directors seated new officers at its annual meeting June 12, 2019, in Whitefish, Mont.

USW is the export market development organization representing U.S. wheat farmers.

USW officers for 2019/20 are: Chairman Doug Goyings of Paulding, Ohio; Vice Chairman Darren Padget of Grass Valley, Ore.; Secretary-Treasurer Rhonda K. Larson of East Grand Forks, Minn.; and Past Chairman Chris Kolstad of Ledger, Mont. USW officers were elected to these one-year positions at the January 2019 board of directors meeting in Washington, D.C.

Rhonda K. Larson was raised on her family's Red River Valley farm and has been engaged in the operation full-time for nearly 30 years. Her father started the farm 50 years ago growing potatoes, wheat and barley. With her two brothers and her son, the third generation on the farm, they currently grow hard red spring wheat and sugarbeets.

Larson has been a board member of the Minnesota Wheat Research & Promotion Council for 16 years and served as chair from 2010 to 2012. She served on the Wheat Foods Council board and is a long-time member of the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers and the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association.



2019-2020 USW Officers (L to R) Darren Padget, Vice Chairman, Oregon; Doug Goyings, Chairman, Ohio; Chris Kolstad, Past Chairman, Montana; and Rhonda K. Larson, Secretary-Treasurer, Minnesota.

SEPTEMBER MARKETING SEMINAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

3:30 - 7:30 pm

Hilton Garden Inn

4351 17th Ave S, Fargo, ND

PROGRAM & DINNER - Free to all attendees

3:30-4:00 pm **Registration and refreshments**

3:55 pm **Welcome** - Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers and
North Dakota Grain Growers

4:00 pm **Farm Transition and Business Planning - A Few Things to Know
as You Start this Journey**
*Russ Tweiten, VP Succession and Retirement Planning, AgCountry
Farm Credit Services, Fargo, ND*

4:30 pm **PTSD: Politics, Trade, Supply & Demand**
Luke Swenson, Owner, The Money Farm, Fargo, ND

5:15 pm **Creating a Competitive Advantage with Improved Management and Marketing**
Bret Oelke, Owner, Innovus Agra, LLC, St. Cloud, MN

5:45 pm **Break** – Coffee, Lemonade and Cookies

6:00 pm **Update from National Agri-Marketing Association**
Clara Konetschka, NDSU Student Chapter President

6:15 pm **Marketing Strategies for Volatile Markets, Know Your
Assumptions – What if You're Right...But What if You're Wrong**
Dr. Frayne Olson, Crops Economist/Marketing Specialist, NDSU, Fargo, ND

7:00 pm **Dinner and informal discussion around the dinner table**

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUESTED

Registration is **Free** to all attendees. Both Minnesota and North Dakota growers can pre-register by calling MN Wheat at 218-253-4311, ext. 3 or by going online to mnwheat.org.

**Farm Transition and
Business Planning
- A Few Things to
Know as You Start
this Journey**
– *Russ Tweiten, VP
Succession and Retirement
Planning, AgCountry
Farm Credit Services*
Russ will provide a birds-
eye view of the preparation
needed for you to transition
your farm operation. He will
share the stark differences
in the planning approach
when there is a next
generation farmer vs. no
next generation farmer and
address the challenges
from both sides.

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**To register call
218-253-4311 ext. 3
or go online at
mnwheat.org**

THE SPEAKERS

PTSD: Politics, Trade, Supply & Demand

– **Luke Swenson**, Owner, *The Money Farm, Fargo*
Volatility: we currently have the most polarizing white house for trade, the wildest and latest planting season potentially ever, unknown supply and demand questions and a majority of the country hoping for an October frost. This year is going to be wild. We are going to touch on the biggest seen and potentially unseen factors to finish out 2019 and look into 2020 crop expectations.

Creating a Competitive Advantage with Improved Management and Marketing

– **Bret Oelke**, Owner, *Innovus Agra, LLC*
When times are tough, and margins are tight producers have to be on their “A” game. It’s also difficult to make money by following the herd; “outside-the-box” thinking is required.

Marketing Strategies for Volatile Markets - Dr. Frayne Olson, Crops Economist/Marketing Specialist, NDSU

Know your assumptions. What if you are right...but what if you are wrong.



DR. FRAYNE OLSON



BRET OELKE



LUKE SWENSON



RUSS TWEITEN



MINNESOTA
ASSOCIATION OF
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North Dakota
Grain Growers Association

HARVEST of KNOWLEDGE

Come join us at the 37th Annual
Harvest of Knowledge Agri-Women’s Conference
Friday, October 24, 2019
Ramada Inn, Grand Forks ND

Farm Babe - Advocating for Ag

Michelle Miller - Iowa Farmer

Soil & Water Conservation District Who We Are and What We Do For You

Nicole Bernd—West Polk Co. SWCD

Rural Photography

Barbara Gunderson—Gunderson Photography

Markets: What Affects Them and What Can I Do

Betsy Jensen - NCTC Instructor

Allison Thompson - The Money Farm

Katie Miller - Ag Country Marketing

Putting It All Together

Betsy Jensen - NCTC Instructor

Harvest of Knowledge Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

*Early registration: \$35. Must be postmarked by Oct.18, 2019. Price includes all breaks, lunch & printed materials. After Oct. 19, registration will be \$40.00. Mail this form to Karen Landman, 805 44th Street NE, Northwood, ND 58267.

Questions? Call Donna Ulseth @ 218.926.5651 or Karen Landman @ 701.326.4523. Register early for the special door prizes. You need to be present for all prizes drawn.



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Photo: Katie Kanz, MN Wheat



Keep Your Focus on the Field



Between weather, fluctuating markets and ever-shrinking margins, you have enough to worry about. The North Dakota Grain Growers Association will represent your interests on regulation and policy issues so you can focus on raising the best crop you can. Let's work together to ensure North Dakota agriculture remains profitable for generations to come.

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The Wheat Foods Council - Working for You

The Wheat Foods Council (WFC) includes members from all sectors of the wheat value chain: growers, millers, bakers, suppliers and others. Our goal is to increase demand for wheat foods in the US market place. We accomplish that goal by targeting key influencers with our programs enabling them to multiply our messages to a much larger audience. By selecting the right influencer targets, and providing them with compelling information and programs, we can maximize a limited budget and optimize message effectiveness.

In 2015 we engaged in strategic planning which included research to identify which target audience(s) had the most potential for

WFC to focus on. We found that Personal Trainers were the critical target; there were 300,000 of them, they gave a lot of advice to their clients about weight loss/weight management and much of it was negative to wheat foods. Additionally, their clients shared what their trainer tells with a much larger group of family and friends.

We selected educating Personal Trainers about the importance of wheat foods nutrition and overcoming their misperceptions and misinformation as one of our core strategies—it was time to address the support for fad diets like the low carb, Paleo, Keto and others, coming from Personal Trainers.

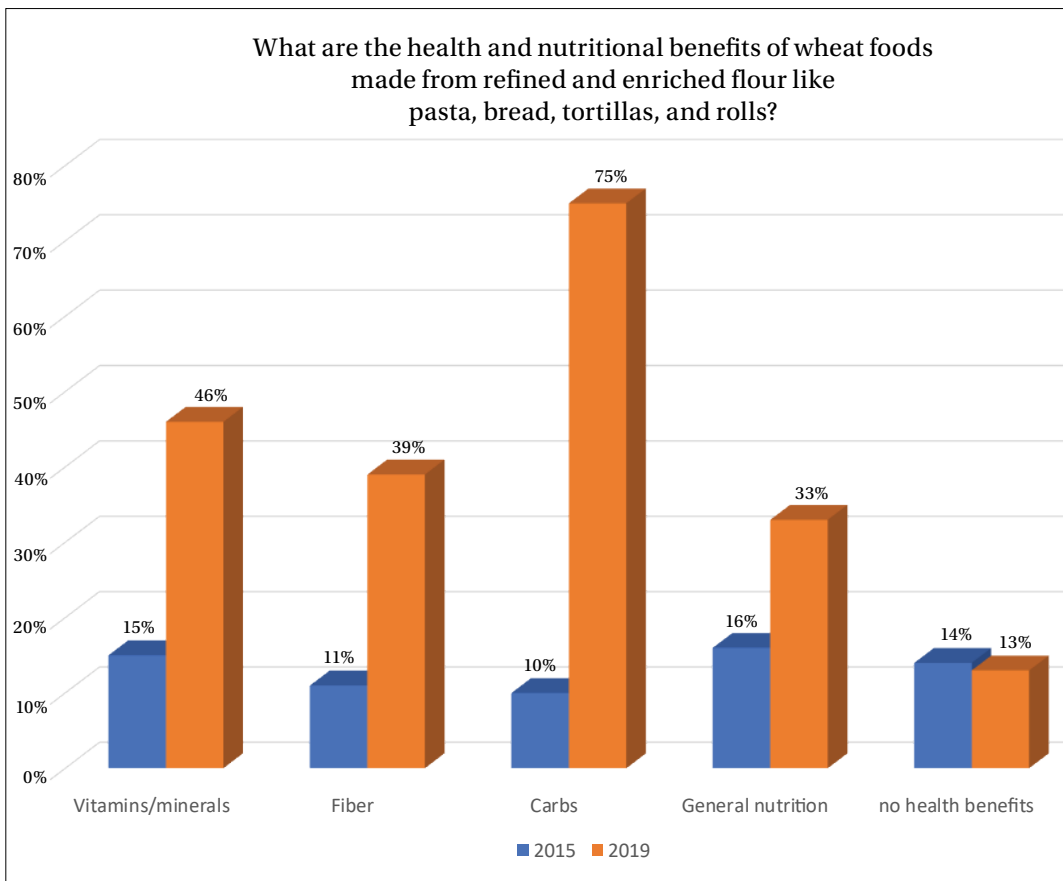
At our 2019 Summer Meeting, we shared the results of a recent survey of Personal Trainers to learn if our programs to turnaround their misperceptions about wheat foods were gaining traction. We are very excited about the impact our plan has achieved in just three years. You can see in the graphs below some significant improvements in what Personal Trainers know about wheat food nutrition today compared to our exploratory survey in 2015.

The most important turnaround is that 75% of the 2,000 trainers we surveyed identified carbohydrates as a health and nutritional benefit of wheat foods made from refined flour, only 10% said that in 2015.



Tim O'Connor

Why is that important? Because Personal Trainers reach 4 - 6 million clients per week and their clients share what their trainers tell them with 32 - 48 million friends and family members per week. Much of that information is about weight loss and weight management and has been negative towards carbohydrates and wheat.



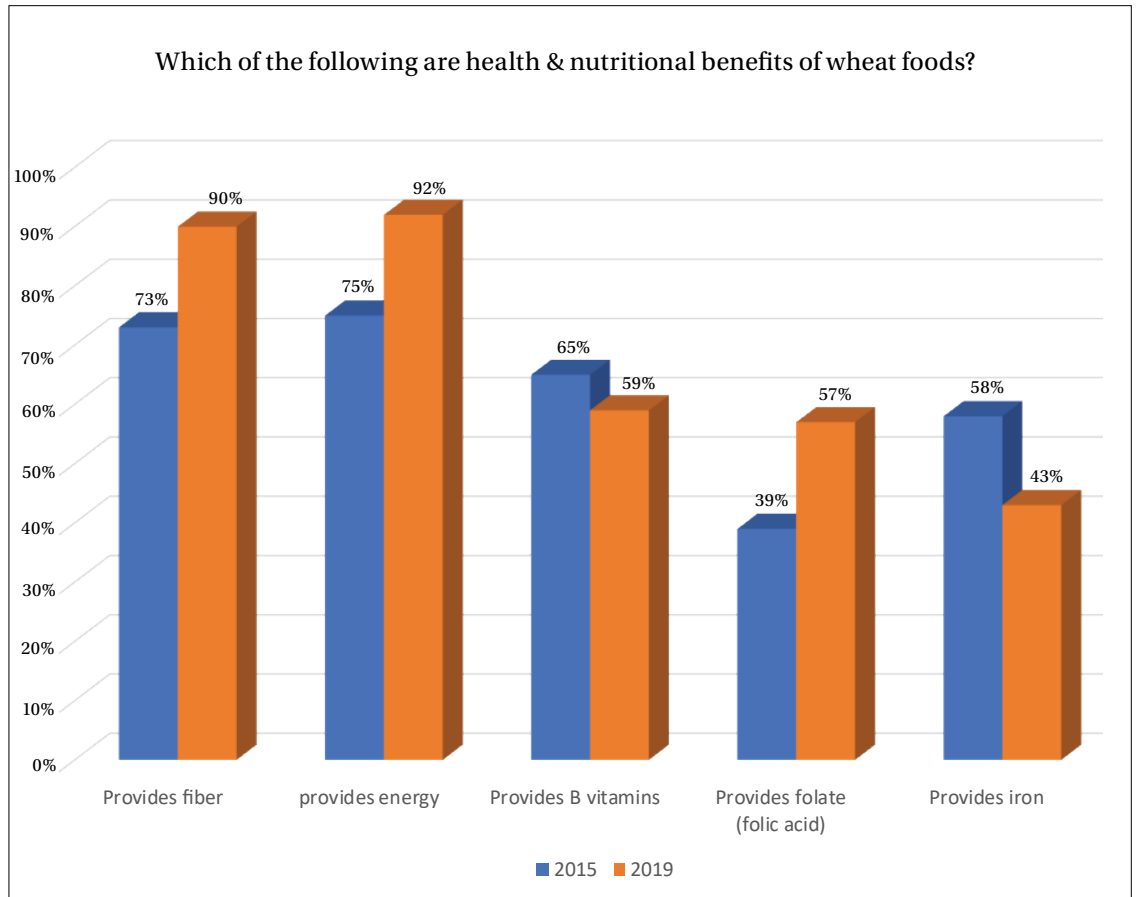
Having 75% of trainers, instead of just 10%, seeing carbs as health and nutritional benefits of wheat foods is a huge accomplishment. We have achieved that by featuring our nutrition and athletic experts as speakers at their meetings and on their webinars and providing sound nutrition resources. We have some of the top experts in the field on our team, trainers are anxious to learn from them and receive continuing education credits from their presentations.

We also target accomplished chefs that set the menus for major restaurant chains, universities, event centers and other places that feed millions of people to educate them about new and exciting ways to utilize

wheat foods and enriched wheat flour in their menus. We hold a custom seminar with the Culinary Institute of America (CIA) to educate the chef and give them a hands-on opportunity in the CIA kitchens.

These major programs and the other things the WFC does provide a solid return on investment back to growers. The US is one of the largest, most affluent markets in the world. Increasing demand for wheat foods here at home and expanding the reach and belief of positive information about wheat foods utilizes more wheat produced by US growers. Everyone can see the benefits of the whole industry working together.

*By Tim O'Connor,
President, Wheat
Foods Council*



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Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER MARKETING SEMINAR

September 11, 2019 | Hilton Garden Inn - Fargo, ND | 3:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Developing a crop marketing plan to market your crops is an important part of managing a farm's total business risk. Speakers will discuss the steps and options available to producers in determining the type of crops grown, marketing tools available, when to establish price targets, and how to determine profitability. www.mnwheat.org

BARLEY TO BEER SHORT COURSE

November 20, 2019 | Northern Crops Institute - Fargo, ND

This one-day short course is specifically designed for our region's barley growers and partners in the barley industry to learn how their barley gets turned into beer. It will allow participants to have rich conversations with their customers and stakeholders. Check out mnwheat.org calendar of events for more information

WHEAT TO BREAD SHORT COURSE

November 21 2019 | Northern Crops Institute - Fargo, ND

This day short course is specifically designed for wheat growers and regional partners in the wheat industry to learn how their wheat gets turned into bread. These will involve hands-on learning experiences and plenty of time to have great conversations about the industry and how wheat quality impacts end products. Contact MN Wheat at mnwheat@gvtel.com or check out the mnwheat.org calendar of events for more information.

MINNESOTA AG AND FOOD SUMMIT

November 7, 2019 | Minneapolis Convention Center - Minneapolis, MN

The Minnesota Ag & Food Summit is Minnesota agriculture's premier speakers conference and networking event of the year. In keeping with their history of providing unparalleled guest speakers, panelists, forums and networking, AgriGrowth is changing their name to better represent what you, their members and guests have told them their conference represents -- a summit of ideas and learning. Their new name will be the Minnesota Ag & Food Summit. www.agrigrowth.org/

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF WHEAT GROWERS RESOLUTIONS MEETING

November 20, 2019 | Wheat Growers Building - Red Lake Falls, MN

Member of Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers are invited to participate in our 2018 Resolutions Committee. The purpose of the committee is to review our current resolutions and recommend changes. In addition, the committee will consider any proposed new resolutions that should be recommended to our membership. Resolutions guide the organization on policy issues. Call MAWG 218-253-4311 Ext 3 or email mnwheat@gvtel.com if you are interested in attending.

NORTHERN AG EXPO

December 3 & 4, 2019 | FargoDome - Fargo, ND

The show is the run by the North Dakota Agricultural Association, whose members cover fertilizer, seed and crop protection providers, as well as related equipment and services. www.ndag.org

AG HORIZONS

December 10 & 11, 2019 | Ramkota RiverCentre - Pierre, SD

There will be six keynote speakers, 24 educational one-hour seminars and an industry seminar held at this conference. Make plans to attend the 2019 Ag Horizons Conference! sdwheat.org/inc/ag-horizon/

PRAIRIE GRAINS CONFERENCE

December 11 & 12, 2019 | Alerus Center - Grand Forks, ND | 7:00 am – 4:00 pm

Referred to as a 'staple of the area farm meeting sessions' and considered to be the unofficial start of the farm meeting season, the Prairie Grains Conference has it all; grower and industry meetings, research reporting sessions, breakout sessions and more. This event is a favorite among producers. www.mnwheat.org

SMALL GRAINS UPDATE MEETING | WHEAT, CORN & SOYBEANS

January 7 through January 10, 2020 | Eight locations throughout the state of Minnesota

Representatives from the three commodity groups and researchers will come together to discuss the topics of most interest to farmers in the region with plenty of time set aside for open discussion. Workshops are an efficient route for farmers to learn about the latest research and updates. www.mnwheat.org

MN AG EXPO

January 22 & 23, 2020 | Verizon Center, Mankato - MN | 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

The Trade Show is full of companies with emerging technologies, equipment specials, and new information and the Educational Sessions on hot button issues affecting your farm operation are abundant this year. From renewable energy to the farm bill to learning how to position your farm operation for the markets in the coming year, they have it all covered at this year's MN AG EXPO. www.mnagexpo.com

NORTHWEST FARM MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

January 30, 2020 | Holiday Inn, West Acres - Fargo, ND

A goal of Northwest Farm Managers Association is to organize the premier meeting/symposium on farm management in this region to help producers prepare for a future in agriculture. The meeting will provide top quality speakers that attendees otherwise may not have the opportunity to hear and to address important agricultural issues. The meeting also provides a forum for attendees to visit and deliberate with peers, presenters, and sponsors. www.ag.ndsu.edu/nwfm

2020 NORTHERN CORN AND SOYBEAN EXPO

February 4, 2020 | FargoDome - Fargo, ND | 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

It's the largest convention focused on the corn and soybean industries in North Dakota. When you pre-register, you are guaranteed access to all parts of the convention: meals, speakers, breakouts, and the trade show.

www.ndcorn.org/cornCouncil/

2020 BEST OF THE BEST IN WHEAT & SOYBEANS

February 5, 2020 | Alerus Center - Grand Forks, ND | 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

February 6, 2020 | Courtyard by Marriott - Moorhead, MN | 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

The North Dakota State University and the University of Minnesota Extension Services, along with MN and ND wheat and soybean associations have joined together to present producers with current research information. In this day-long workshop, growers will have the opportunity to learn from researchers and extension specialists.

www.mnwheat.org

2020 ADVANCED CROP ADVISERS WORKSHOP

February 12-13, 2020 | Holiday Inn - Fargo, ND | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

This is an advanced workshop for agricultural professionals, including crop consultants, agronomists, Extension agents and agribusiness representatives, who advise farmers with crop production recommendations.

www.ag.ndsu.edu/CarringtonREC/events

INTERNATIONAL CROP EXPO

February 19 & 20, 2020 | Alerus Center - Grand Forks, ND | 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

With spring preparation around the corner, here is an opportunity to get any questions answered and develop your upcoming farm strategies. Information seminars for small grains, bean and potatoes will be offered on both days.

Don't miss the featured panelists after you check out the large commercial exhibit. www.cropexpo.com

2020 COMMODITY CLASSIC

February 27 – February 29, 2020 | Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center - San Antonio, TX

This is America's largest farmer-led, farmer-focused convention and trade show. Commodity Classic is open to all friends of corn, soybeans, wheat and sorghum - from growers to member associations to agribusiness to farm media. It's a one-of-a-kind convention and trade show. www.commodityclassic.com

American Malting Barley Association, Inc.

740 N. Plankinton Ave., Suite 830 | Milwaukee, WI 53203
www.AMBAinc.org



AMBA Recommended Varieties - July 2019 Update

*Milwaukee - July 9, 2019
Press Release: ABMA*

The American Malting Barley Association (AMBA) Board of Directors added the following variety to the recommended list of malting barley varieties for 2019.

LCS Violetta, a winter two-row malting variety, was developed by Saatzucht

Breun in Germany and is marketed in the US by Limagrain Cereal Seeds. It has performed well in the mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions, but may not perform as well in the upper Midwest and northeast during severe winters. With this change, the list of recommended malting barley varieties for 2019 below.

Each year, the American Malting Barley Association (AMBA) releases its list of recommended malting barley varieties to US growers. AMBA is a non-profit trade association of 76 brewing, distilling and malting companies that are end users of US malting barley. The list is meant to inform US producers which malting

barley varieties the industry intends to use in the upcoming year. Some varieties will be used in large quantities and others are only utilized in niche markets, so producers are encouraged to contact their local elevator, grain handler or processor to gauge market demand for any variety grown in their region prior to seeding.

TWO-ROWS

AAC Synergy	Charles *	Hockett	ND Genesis
ABI Growler	Conlon	LCS Genie	Newdale
ABI Voyager	Conrad	LCS Violetta *	Pinnacle
AC Metcalfe	Endeavor *	Merit 57	Puffin *
Bill Coors 100	Expedition	Moravian 37	Scarlett
CDC Copeland	Explorer	Moravian 69	Thunder *
		Moravian 165	Wintmalt *

* winters

SIX-ROWS

Celebration	Lacey	Quest	Tradition
Innovation	Legacy	Thoroughbred *	

* winters



The 27th anniversary Wheat Open was a beautiful day for the golfers at Lakeside Golf Club in Perham. From the golf and weather to the great food, everyone had a fantastic day out on the course. The Wheat Open golf tournament is a way to say thank you to members and supporters of the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers. *Thank you* for making our 27th anniversary golf tournament a great success. Your membership dues and sponsorship of MAWG events help raise the funds necessary to continue our work in St. Paul and Washington D.C. We are proud of our past successes and we continually work on issues important to wheat growers in Minnesota.

And the winners are



1st Place Gross Division
 L to R: David Kiecker, Scott Wilson, Jeff Bachand and Kevin Geerdes



1st Place Net Division
 L to R: Josh Summer, Gary Nelson, Andrew Ness and Garrett Gunderson

Thank you to all of the sponsors:

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The Sun Never Sets on U.S. Wheat Export Market Development

By Amanda J. Spoo, Director of Communications, U.S. Wheat Associates

As U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) President Vince Peterson often says, at any given hour of the day there is someone, somewhere, talking about the quality, reliability and value of U.S. wheat. As the export market development organization for the U.S. wheat industry, USW works through its 15 offices around the world to promote all six U.S. wheat classes to wheat buyers, millers, bakers, food processors and government officials in more than 100 countries.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

USW is supported by a highly successful public-private partnership between its 17 state wheat commission

members, including the Minnesota Research and Promotion Council, and cost-share funding from the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). On average, U.S. wheat farmers contribute about one third of a penny per bushel (\$0.0032) to USW.

While FAS funding varies, its average match has been about \$2.00 for every \$1 in state funding. The application process requires extensive strategic planning that carefully examines every market, identifies opportunities for export growth and recognizes trends or policies that could threaten existing or prospective markets.

These partnerships make it possible for U.S. wheat farmers to have representatives who work directly with their customers daily and

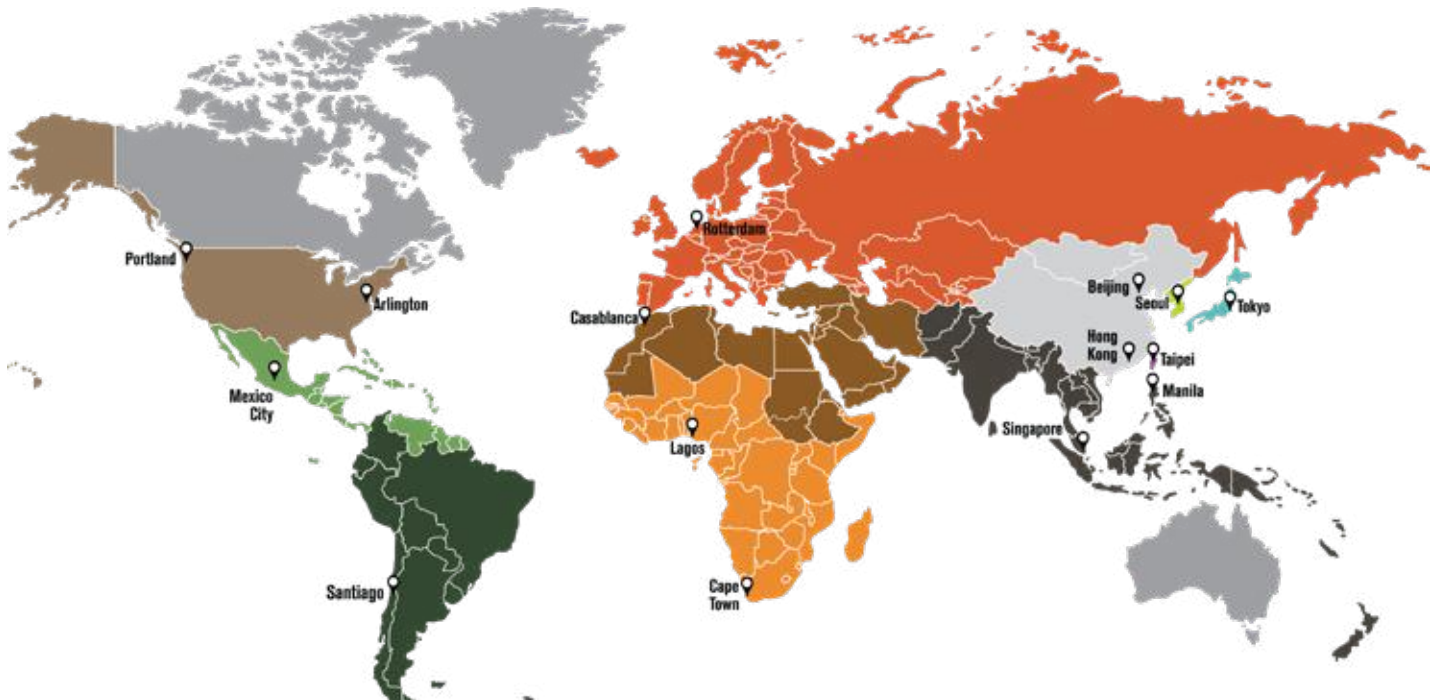
translate customer needs directly back to the commissions, who are in turn helping direct research for wheat variety development in their states. The return on investment is evident. A 2016 econometric study of export demand showed that between 2001 and 2014, FAS funding provided a return of \$24 in export gains for every additional \$1 spent on foreign market development (the ratio is \$28 to \$1 between 1977 and 2014). It also increased average annual farm income by \$2.1 billion and created 239,000 new full and part-time U.S. jobs. These results were consistent with a 2016 economic analysis of wheat export promotion that showed U.S. wheat farmers received \$45 in net revenue for every \$1 they invested in export promotion between 2007 and 2014.



Amanda J. Spoo

WORKING WITH BUYERS

The U.S. grain marketing system is reliable and transparent but can be complicated. USW works directly with overseas customers to provide them the trade service, technical assistance, market information and consumer promotion that creates value for them as U.S. wheat customers and users.



Through trade servicing, USW helps resolve issues in purchasing, shipping or using U.S. wheat through its 13 overseas offices, trade delegations to the United States, regular crop and market condition updates, quality surveys and other activities. USW also regularly analyzes relevant market data and shares information with buyers on trade policy, standards or specifications that may affect imports, and projections for future wheat production and consumption. USW publishes several regular reports, covering wheat export prices, commercial sales, world supply and demand, and crop quality.

Through technical assistance, USW sponsors customer participation in technical courses, workshops and seminars to help strengthen the global milling, storage, handling and end-product industries. Other activities include personalized consulting in milling technology, baking, snack food and pasta production and grain storage and handling.

TRADE POLICY

USW also works with the U.S. government and other governments to overcome trade barriers and promote rules-based free trade. USW also supports free trade through multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements, and works closely with FAS and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to provide input on trade negotiations to improve market access and monitor existing trade agreements to ensure rules are implemented properly. USW actively seeks to bring

down trade barriers or change policies that may prevent an overseas customer from choosing U.S. wheat.

WHO WE REPRESENT

USW proudly represents hard-working farm families that help fill U.S. tables and supply a significant share

of world wheat trade. The global demand for wheat food grows stronger every year so exports are vitally important to U.S. wheat farmers. The support for export market development starts with U.S. farmers, like those in Minnesota, who listen to the needs of their

customers and believe in the differential advantage of U.S. Wheat Associates.

Learn more about USW on its website at www.uswheat.org, as well as on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/uswheat/>) and Twitter (@uswheatassoc).

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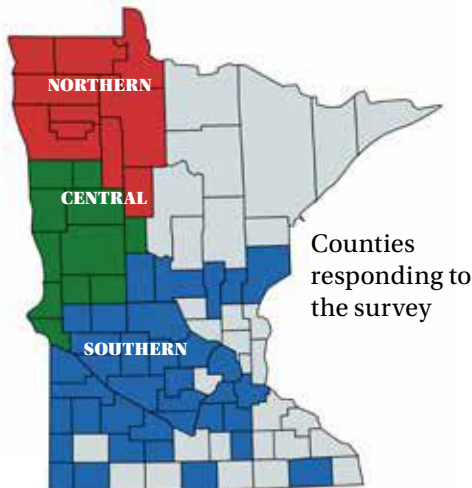
UNVERFERTH MANUFACTURING CO., INC. | P.O. Box 357 • Kalida, OH 45853 • unverferth.com

2019 Minnesota Wheat Varieties

We would like to thank all of the Minnesota wheat producers who responded to our annual wheat variety survey. The results of this survey help guide our U of M spring wheat breeder, Dr. Jim Anderson, in developing suitable varieties for production in Minnesota. The results of the survey tell us what varieties are most popular, and what characteristics are most important to you as growers. We hope that this will improve in the future. Next year when you receive the survey, please take a few minutes to complete and return it.

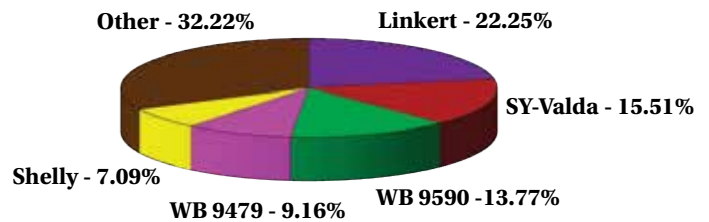
Survey Findings:

- Linkert was the most popular variety state-wide, with 22.25% of the acreage planted in 2019.
- Second most popular was SY-Valda at 15.51% of the state's acreage in 2019.
- Third on the list was WB 9590 at 13.77%, followed by WB 9479 at 9.16% and Shelly at 7.09%.
- In the northern growing regions of the state, Linkert was the most popular variety with 23.94%.
- SY-Valda was the most popular variety in the central growing region, with 22.12% of the acres planted.
- In the southern region, Bolles was first on the list at 25.49% acres planted.

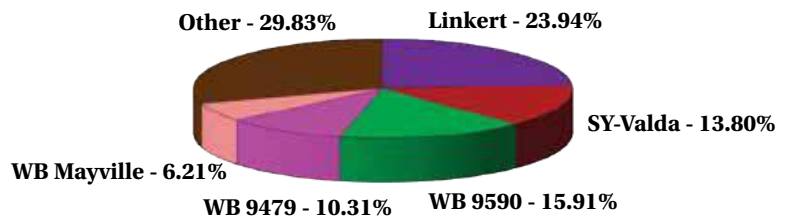


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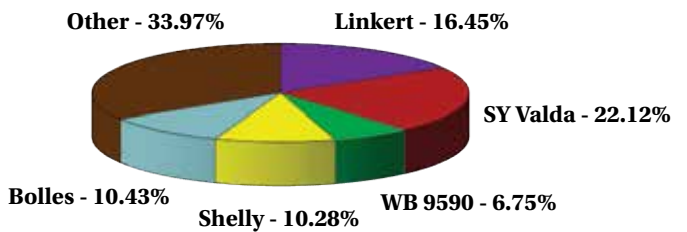
Top Five Varieties in Minnesota, 2019 Total Acres Surveyed in 2019: 543,501



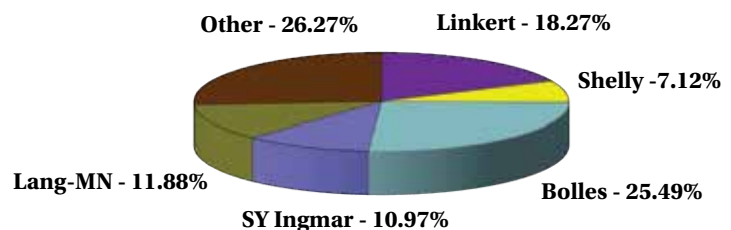
Top Five Varieties in Northern Minnesota, 2019 Total Acres Surveyed in 2019: 419,930



Top Five Varieties in Central Minnesota, 2019 Total Acres Surveyed in 2019: 118,613



Top Five Varieties in Southern Minnesota, 2019 Total Acres Surveyed in 2019: 4,958



MN SPRING WHEAT VARIETIES - YEARLY COMPARISON

Variety	Release Date	Entire State 2019	Entire State 2018	Entire State 2017	Northern 2019	Northern 2018	Northern 2017	Central 2019	Central 2018	Central 2017	Southern 2019	Southern 2018	Southern 2017
Linkert	2013 U OF M	22.25%	27.28%	28.23%	23.94%	29.30%	29.67%	16.45%	20.63%	24.26%	18.27%	24.18%	14.79%
SY-Valda	2015 Syngenta	15.51%	8.91%	6.55%	13.80%	9.70%	6.40%	22.12%	6.85%	7.33%	2.62%	0.64%	3.41%
WB 9590	2017 WestBred	13.77%	2.48%	0.32%	15.91%	3.05%	0.26%	6.75%	0.71%	0.53%	—	—	—
WB 9479	2017 WestBred	9.16%	3.45%	0.16%	10.31%	4.15%	0.09%	5.37%	1.33%	0.40%	2.70%	—	—
Shelly	2016 U OF M	7.09%	8.18%	5.63%	6.18%	7.66%	5.68%	10.28%	9.50%	5.42%	7.12%	14.24%	6.61%
WB-Mayville	2011 WestBred	5.36%	9.63%	13.51%	6.21%	11.71%	15.68%	2.58%	3.25%	7.02%	—	—	—
Bolles	2015 U of M	4.35%	10.45%	14.44%	2.38%	6.36%	11.02%	10.43%	23.72%	25.87%	25.49%	20.42%	18.51%
TCG-Spitfire	2015 21st Century Genetics	3.91%	3.13%	4.19%	3.96%	3.51%	4.82%	3.92%	2.06%	2.31%	—	—	—
SY-Ingmar	2014 Syngenta	2.82%	3.73%	3.99%	2.36%	3.42%	4.38%	4.10%	4.76%	2.71%	10.97%	3.88%	3.49%
Lang-MN	2017 U of M	1.95%	4.38%	0.51%	0.71%	3.95%	0.53%	5.94%	6.02%	0.46%	11.88%	1.85%	—
Prosper	2011 NDSU	1.92%	1.89%	4.58%	2.33%	1.30%	4.29%	0.40%	3.96%	5.52%	3.45%	1.43%	5.17%
Samson	2007 WestBred	1.11%	1.46%	2.37%	1.44%	1.79%	2.90%	0.00%	0.43%	0.73%	—	—	—
HRS 3530 / CP 3530	2015 Croplan	1.08%	1.36%	0.76%	0.90%	1.56%	0.97%	1.75%	0.76%	0.09%	0.89%	0.51%	—
WB 9719	2017 WestBred	1.03%	1.00%	—	0.97%	0.67%	—	1.30%	1.98%	—	—	2.69%	—
LCS Rebel	2017 Limagrain Cereal Seeds	0.81%	0.36%	—	0.77%	0.41%	—	0.97%	0.24%	—	—	—	—
TCG-Climax	2017 21st Century Genetics	0.78%	2.16%	0.14%	0.69%	2.18%	0.18%	1.15%	2.26%	—	—	—	—
LCS Trigger	2016 Limagrain Cereal Seeds	0.71%	0.38%	0.24%	0.76%	0.47%	0.31%	0.56%	0.09%	—	—	—	—
SY-Soren	2011 AgriPro	0.65%	1.13%	2.28%	0.49%	0.55%	1.89%	1.01%	2.57%	3.06%	6.05%	8.90%	9.81%
Faller	2007 NDSU	0.58%	1.51%	2.49%	0.28%	1.36%	1.84%	1.53%	1.47%	3.56%	3.03%	8.75%	18.94%
Ambush	2016 DynaGro	0.54%	0.29%	0.07%	0.70%	0.38%	0.10%	—	—	—	—	—	—
HRS 3419 / CP 3419	2014 Croplan	0.51%	0.77%	0.93%	0.60%	0.72%	1.01%	0.22%	0.99%	0.67%	—	0.51%	0.66%
Rollag	2011 U of M	0.39%	1.53%	1.32%	0.33%	1.14%	1.12%	0.63%	2.86%	2.10%	—	1.43%	—
LCS Breakaway	2011 Limagrain Cereal Seeds	0.38%	0.80%	0.47%	0.49%	1.05%	0.61%	—	—	—	—	—	—
MN-Washburn	2019 U OF M	0.32%	—	—	0.31%	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
LCS Cannon	2018 Limagrain Cereal Seeds	0.24%	0.03%	—	0.20%	—	—	0.39%	0.13%	—	—	—	—
SY McCloud	2019 Syngenta	0.24%	—	—	0.25%	—	—	0.20%	—	—	—	—	—
Prevail	2014 SDSU	0.23%	0.31%	—	0.30%	0.32%	0.33%	—	—	0.03%	—	3.98%	2.90%
Other		2.31%	3.40%	6.82%	2.43%	3.29%	5.92%	1.95%	3.43%	7.93%	7.53%	6.59%	15.71%
Total		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Northern Crops Institute – Connecting in the Global Marketplace

Nestled on the campus of North Dakota State University, the Northern Crops Institute (NCI) is only minutes from the farm fields which yield much of the world's food.

Established in 1979, this unique facility was initially dedicated to promoting durum and spring wheat.

Over the past 40 years NCI has evolved to promote, develop, and market a wide variety of crops from North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Montana. Construction of the initial facilities was completed in 1983, and since then NCI has hosted participants, industry professionals, and delegates from over 130 different

nations. These individuals from across the globe get a first-hand look into regional agriculture, and learn how to utilize northern grown crops in their own products, businesses, or industries.

NCI's mission is to support regional agriculture and value-added processing by conducting educational and technical programs that expand and maintain domestic and international markets for northern grown crops. "We really just want to shine a light on how incredible northern grown crops are, and how many uses there are for them across the globe." says Mark Jirik, Director of the Northern Crops Institute.

In addition to their mission, NCI has two unique pillars that set the institute apart: supporting companies with technical services, and growing professionals with educational courses. In order to assist and promote the use of crops grown in the four-state area, NCI offers a variety of technical services ranging from processing, product development, consulting, marketing, and testing. The team at NCI has ample experience in both small- and large-scale projects. NCI values the importance of confidentiality, and works with a variety of businesses to come up with a solution or product that is unique to their situation. The technical staff also has expertise in a wide array

of areas, including but not limited to: soy utilization, bread baking, extrusion technology, and feed manufacturing. NCI's staff is also willing to travel across the world to help brands create the perfect product.

NCI knows that in order to create effective and efficient use of northern grown crops, they must educate professionals on the benefits, uses, and best practices associated with regional crops. This is why NCI hosts various courses throughout the year to help industry professionals gain or refresh their knowledge. These courses are typically two days to two weeks in length, and range from topics such as Pasta from Multiple



Pasta Production & Technology Course Participants – Rilie Morgan (Process Project Manager at NCI) demonstrating the pasta production process during our annual pasta production & technology course.



Wheat to Bread Course Participants – Participants took a one day course on the process of “wheat to bread”. They were involved with hands-on demonstrations and made bread and tortillas too.

Wheat Classes and Soybean Procurement Management for Importers, to Barley to Beer: A Field Perspective. NCI is also able to create customized programs to fit business’s needs. The institute uses lectures, case studies, laboratory demonstrations, hands on experience, and tours to help professionals and businesses gain extensive industry knowledge. Past participants have enjoyed the diversity of information they receive throughout the courses, and the fact that they are provided with hands on experience.

The facilities at NCI include a multi translation auditorium, various laboratories, a feed production center, pilot scale flour mill, as well as the utilization of NDSU’s

commodity trading room. Thanks to these facilities, the knowledgeable and welcoming staff, and over 100 pieces of high-tech processing equipment, NCI is able to fulfill all business’s needs in a professional and efficient manner.

NCI is funded by various forms of partnerships, and sponsorships. The foremost of which is through the state legislatures of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and various commodity groups from these three states, as well as Montana. NCI also partners on a worldwide level with USDA/FAS, US Wheat Associates, USA Pea and Lentil Association, US Grains Council, USSEC and other national commodity

groups to educate buyers and promote regional crops to buyers around the world. If you would like to learn more about all the techni-

cal services or educational courses NCI has to offer, please visit their website at northern-crops.com or call their office at 701-231-7736.

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Community Without Borders

Those are the three words that helped shape and develop an event for the local agriculture community like never before. The Northern Crops Institute (NCI) in collaboration with the Minnesota Wheat Research & Promotion Council, hosted the first ever Red River Valley Ag Leadership Celebration on July 16th in Mentor, Minnesota at the Maple Lake Pavilion. The celebration opened a door for agriculturalists from both sides of the Red River to come together for an evening of networking, live music, delicious food, demonstrations, and guest speakers.

“We saw an opportunity for there to be a day dedicated to celebrating our local producers, and we took it,” said Mark Jirik, Director at

NCI. “We wanted this to be a day where producers can get together, despite their differences of where they come from or the factors that their operations have faced in the past year, and truly connect and unite with their shared passion for agriculture.”

Farmers in the Red River Valley have faced many struggles in the recent years with drastic weather changes and other factors within their production.

However, for this one day, concerns about weather, yield predictions, and other worries were left behind as farmers from across the valley united on topics like the importance of volunteering, collaboration with others, and efforts being made to improve

the agriculture industry. The event received an abundant amount of support from local, regional and state businesses and commodity groups. “People and businesses see this as a worthwhile event to invest in,” stated Jirik. “With the sponsorships we have received, we have begun to set our sights on this being an annual event.”

“It’s just what we needed,” said Doyle Lentz, a North Dakota farmer and guest speaker at the event. “Not only is it a place for us to unite and support each other, it is an event that you leave feeling more inspired and filled with hope. Now, more than ever, we need to celebrate and come together as an industry, and this came at the perfect time.”

This event wouldn’t have been possible without the sponsors and the nearly 250 people who attended it. “We did not know how many to expect at the event, but were certainly delighted to have that many guests present,” said Dave Torgerson, former executive director of MN Wheat, who helped plan the event. “Our attendees have also given us wonderful feedback to see how we can make this event grow and improve in the years to come.” The team has already begun brainstorming where the event will be next year, with thoughts on somewhere in southeastern North Dakota.

To learn more about this event, or to sign up for email updates for future RRVAg events, please visit RRVAg.com.



Other sponsors of the event include Minnesota Corn & Soybean Growers of Marshall, Polk, Norman, Pennington/Red Lake, & Becker/Mahnomen counties; Minnesota Soybean Growers of Kittson and Roseau/LOW counties; Small Grains Institute; Thunder Seeds; BNSF Railway; CHS Erskine Terminal/CHS Mahnomen; Minnesota Agri-Women, North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, North Dakota Grain Growers Association; Bell Bank; Bremer Bank; MLD Communications; Northern Crops Institute and Prairie Ag Communications.



Members of the Ag Peer Group spoke to the crowd on how their program encourages farmers and ag professionals to learn from one another and educate the non-farm sector.



Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Thom Petersen stopped at the RRVAg event and spoke to the attendees on the valuable contribution that NW MN agriculture is to the state of Minnesota.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE 2019 SPORTING CLAY SHOOT-OUT

This year's annual MN Wheat Sporting Clay Shoot-out had 54 novice and advanced shooters participate. All of the growers and ag professionals enjoyed a beautiful day of shooting at the Northwest Sporting Clay Association course in Thief River Falls, MN.

Joining the group this year was an individual from South Africa, Lenel Oosthuizen, who works for an area grower. Lenel and his team ended up with this highest score, earning them the Top Team prize and bragging rights. The day ended with a social and steak supper. Prizes were also awarded to the best individual. A side game of Annie Oakley was also played.

THE WINNERS ARE....

Top Individual, score 50: Brian Bertilrud

Annie Oakley: Pete Kappes

Top Team, avg 45.8: TJ LaPlante, Brent Strickler,

Lenel Oosthuizen, Eric Johnson & Neil Johnson

(pictured below L to R)



THANK YOU to our sponsors. The day was a success because of you!



Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers

The Sporting Clay Shoot-out is an event of the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers. For more information or to join us next year as a participant or sponsor, please contact MN Wheat at 218-253-4311.

Soil Health Field Day

The Soil Health Partnership: A project to make agriculture more productive and sustainable through soil health.

David and Peggy Miller are firm believers in regenerating their soils for the next generation so they partnered up with Soil Health Partnership, whose ultimate goal is to measure and communicate the economic and environmental benefits of different soil management strategies, and provide a set of regionally specific data driven recommendations that farmers can use to improve the productivity and sustainability of their farms.

The Soil Health Partnership Associate Program is designed to allow more farmers to join their network and to help in delivering their mission – using science and data to support farmers in

adopting agricultural practices that improve the environmental and economic sustainability of the farm.

The Millers, along with daughter Mikayla and son-in-law, Ben Tabert recently held a soil health field day at their farm in Red Lake Falls, MN. Their goals on their farm are to reduce erosion, increase organic matter, reduce input costs and regenerate their soil. Through trial and error, the Millers and Taberts have been continually working on these and other issues on their farm. They have used no-till since 1995 and strip-till their corn since 1996.

David says it is a lot of work

but it is definitely worth it. “People ask me, ‘Why go to all this trouble?’ I tell them we have a greater ROI, it improves nutrient availability and I leave the soil in better shape than when I started farming.”

COVER CROPS

Speakers who joined the Millers include, Kent Solberg, Sustainable Farm Association Grazing Specialist who says cover crops are a ‘tool’ that can provide substantial benefits to improving soil health, productivity and farm profitability.

“Cover crops work best in combination with diverse crop rotations, no-till and livestock integrated into the

cropping enterprise through planned grazing”, says Solberg. “The more diverse the complex cover crop mix, the better the response from soil microbes and the higher level of drought tolerance.”

A sound crop rotation must include representatives from each of the four major crop types: cool-season grasses, cool-season broadleaves, warm-season grasses and warm-season broadleaves. See side bar at the end of the article for examples.

For more information, contact the Soil Health Partnership at <https://www.soilhealth-partnership.org/>



Diversified pollinator mix seeded with sunflowers



Pea/Oat/Canola Poly



Rye/Soybean Relay



Diversified Grazing Mix

EXAMPLES OF MAJOR CROP TYPES

Cool-season grasses: Oats | Barley | Wheat | Annual rye | Cereal rye | Triticale

Cool-season broadleaves: Field pea | Red Clover | Hairy vetch | Common Vetch | Turnip | Daikon radish

Warm-season grasses: Sorghum-sudan | Millets | Corn

Warm-season broadleaves: Soybean | Cowpea | Sunflower | Buckwheat



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Decreasing Reliance on Pesticides and Fertilizer Usage Through Gene Editing

By Merrick Irvin, NAWG
Summer Intern

Within the United States, many farmers utilize resources around them to ensure a healthy, bountiful crop is produced on their farm. Specifically, they will use pesticides to protect their crops from getting destroyed by herbal, insectile, or fungal based pests. In addition, many farmers utilize fertilizers to provide their crop with essential nutrients needed for growth. In this fourth blog of our five-part series, we will be exploring how gene editing can minimize our use of pesticides and fertilizers in wheat production.

NEW WHEAT VARIETIES DECREASE NEED FOR PESTICIDES

Gene editing research is being conducted by scientists from all around the globe to make plants naturally resistant to various types of diseases and pests. Gao Caixia is a plant scientist leading the pursuit in CRISPR gene editing technology being utilized to transform the food industry. Gao has identified a way CRISPR technology could cripple a specific protein in wheat that makes it susceptible to powdery mildew, a harvest damaging fungal disease. Research found shows varieties resistant to powdery mildew, but tests are still being conducted. Additionally, researchers have started using CRISPR technology to edit the gene that makes wheat susceptible to the devastating

Fusarium graminearum or head blight (head scab) fungal disease. Through gene editing, scientists are finding ways to make wheat naturally resistant to detrimental pests, decreasing our need/usage of pesticides in wheat production.

DECREASING WHEAT FARMERS NEED FOR FERTILIZERS

Fertilizers provide essential nutrients to crops that otherwise may not be readily available within the planted ground. In some soils, a compound containing phosphorus called phytate is prevalent and can be broken down using an enzyme called phytase. When broken down by phytase, phytate releases phosphorus that can be then absorbed by wheat roots. A group of Pakistani researchers utilized a fungus called *Aspergillus japonicus* that produces phytase and then inserted this gene into wheat varieties. As a result, they created a wheat plant that can access soil phosphorus that was not available to it before. These gene edited wheat plants grew bigger and contained more of the phosphorus nutrient within it.

Additionally, similar gene editing research is being conducted to make plants more efficient in nitrogen uptake. Nitrogen is an essential nutrient for many plant species that is readily available in the air but not so much in the ground. Currently, a biotech company

out of Berkeley, California is utilizing gene editing technology to enhance a microbial bacteria's ability to synthesize nitrogen in the air into a form that can be absorbed by wheat and corn. Furthermore, plant geneticist Xiangdong Fu has identified molecules called DELLA proteins that have inhibited nitrogen absorption abilities in modern crops. As a result, Fu has found a way to counteract DELLA proteins and encourage plants to absorb/metabolize nitrogen to support plant growth.

FUTURE OF WHEAT: FEWER PESTICIDE AND FERTILIZER USE
Work being conducted by these scientists and researchers are paving the way in creating agriculture more sustainable as well as dampen its affect on the environment. Gene editing is working to decrease wheat's usage/need of pesticides and fertilizer application on its fields. The future possibilities are truly endless through gene editing technology.

Check out Irvin's five-part series covering *The History of Wheat and Its Future and The Science Behind Gene Editing and Wheat Could Soon Be Gluten Free (Through Gene Editing)* at the National Wheat Foundation's website, <https://wheatfoundation.org/category/blog/>

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A man and a young boy are walking away from the camera through a field of young corn plants. The man is on the left, wearing a dark blue t-shirt, blue jeans, and a maroon baseball cap. The boy is on the right, wearing a dark t-shirt, blue jeans, and a green baseball cap. The field is filled with rows of young corn plants, and the background shows a sunset sky with soft, golden light. The overall mood is peaceful and hopeful.

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