ATTN: OFRN Participants

The Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council (MWRPC) is a non-profit organization 501(c) (3) authorized under Minnesota Agricultural Commodities Promotion Act. It is overseen by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture through the Commodity Promotion Order. The purpose of the Council is to generate funds equitably from wheat producers for the establishment of market development, public relations, promotion, and research programs and/or projects to benefit wheat production and sales of wheat and wheat products.

Research is one area of funding for the MWRPC and one part of that research is the On-Farm Research Network (OFRN). The OFRN was created in 2011 to perform grower-driven research using field scale machinery and variability. The OFRN is funded through the MWRPC and other external grant funding sources. This document lays a foundation for the OFRN data privacy and use policies.

I) Summaries of research data may be used on an individual or collective basis for explaining data and results.

II) The OFRN may release georeferenced data and information to university or other researchers for outside analysis upon receipt of a non-disclosure agreement for privacy and security purposes of the data.

III) The OFRN will manage data in a database and other forms without revealing participant’s names, locations, latitude/longitude, plat book locations, or other descriptive measures without expressed written consent by the cooperator.

IV) The OFRN may identify locations by general location descriptors such as county or nearest town.

V) Information such as true yields, soil type, and all production machinery, management, and date information will be kept anonymous, however included in publications and presentations for educational benefit.

VI) This policy is retroactive to all past data collected and disseminated by the OFRN.

This policy is intended to lead towards a highly educational open dialogue about research without identifying data by place or name. Policies in this agreement are subject to change, at which time new agreements will be sent to participating constituents.

April 7, 2017