

WINTER CEREALS

CANADA 

Incorporating  and  News

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WINTER CEREALS

RE-CLASSIFICATION DELAYED

Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc. and the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission were notified by a letter dated September 1, 2011 from Mr. Elwin Hermanson, Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Grain Commission that the Canadian Grain Commission in conjunction with the Canadian Wheat Board were considering extending the date for CDC Falcon reclassification to August 1, 2014.

Recently the Directors of both WCMI and the SWCDC met with the CGC and discussed our concerns about the lack of sufficient new replacement seed for the fall of 2012. Complicating the issue is the fact that winter wheat is not harvested in the same crop year as it is seeded resulting in a grade change immediately following harvest. Seed planted as CWRW would be marketed as CWGP. It is essential that farmers be well prepared, and understand the consequences of growing CDC Falcon and also have adequate supplies of a replacement variety available.

In a news release dated October 3, 2011 it was announced that The Canadian Grain Commission now plans to move CDC Falcon to the Canada Western General Purpose (CWGP) class as of August 1, 2014, a year later than originally scheduled. Currently, it is a Canada Western Red Winter (CWRW) wheat variety.

The transition period of CDC Falcon may be extended beyond August 1, 2014 if insufficient alternative varieties are not available at that time.

"When we first announced that certain CWRW varieties were moving to the CWGP class in 2013, we stated that CDC Falcon would not move until at least one replacement variety with similar or better agronomic factors was available to producers," explains Elwin Hermanson, Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Grain Commission. "Right now, it appears that replacement varieties won't be ready in time, so we have decided to keep Falcon in the CWRW class until 2014."

As announced on July 15, 2011, the following wheat varieties will move from the CWRW class to the CWGP class effective August 1, 2013:

- CDC Kestrel • CDC Clair
- CDC Harrier • CDC Raptor

As has been previously reported in the Winter Cereals Grower the changes that will come into effect on August 1, 2013 are as follows:

- 1) The CWB will no longer use the terms "Select" and "Generic" with reference to the CWRW class.
- 2) All of the varieties now in the "select" category will remain eligible for the CWRW class.
- 3) All of the varieties now in the "Generic" category (except CDC Falcon) will be re-classified into the Canadian Western General Purpose (CWGP) class.

THE BERES REPORT - SUMMARY UPDATE ON WINTER WHEAT AGRONOMY DIAP PROJECTS

We are wrapping up our first field season of the winter wheat project and it has been a challenging year! The weather wreaked havoc for many but it was interesting to see that on many of the field day tours the winter wheat plots/crop usually looked the best. In some locations, it was the only viable experiment that remained from the excessive rain and subsequent floods. The following is a brief update of the project.

Sub-activity 1.1 (Test 211) Determine the influence of seed-applied fungicides and insecticides on fall stand establishment and overwinter survival of winter wheat.

A total of 7 sites were successfully grown this year to study the effects of seed-applied fungicides, insecticides or dual combinations. The results were variable as some sites such as Lacombe did not observe responses to seed treatments where other sites such as southern Alberta and Canora, SK did have responses to seed treatments. Plant stands did not differ, but plant growth and vigour appeared to improve with seed treatments if there was a response.

Sub-activity 1.2 (Test 212) Improving the success of planting winter wheat into barley grain stubble.

One of the goals of this project is to successfully grow winter wheat in stubble other than canola. Barley would be a reasonable alternative, particularly in shorter season areas. We were interested to see what management strategies would be needed to control volunteer barley. In all sites planted in 2010, all volunteer barley was suppressed by the winter wheat growth and competitiveness cv. CDC Buteo. Therefore, we concluded that we should instead change the objective to: Determine the efficacy of novel herbicides in controlling weeds in sub-optimal and optimal stands of winter wheat.

If a producer does experience reduced stand establishment, this study will help develop herbicide recommendations to optimize weed management. I like the new focus, which will involve wild oat and cleaver pressure; and a new chemistry, Pyroxylylsulfone, compared to Group 2 and 4 industry standards.

Sub-activity 1.3 (Test 213) Managing nitrogen when planting winter wheat on barley grain stubble.

The major focus of this sub-activity is to determine if nitrogen management recommendations need to be altered when planting winter wheat into barley stubble. There is some concern that heavy trash left behind at barley harvest could lead to N immobilization and cause deficiencies in winter wheat. This study has been established and will be grown in Brandon, northern and southern Alberta.

Sub-activity 1.4 (Test 214) Crop growth enhancement through improved residue management strategies.

This sub-activity builds upon 1.2 and 1.3, but expands to involve a wide array of potential alternative stubbles from barley to camelina. We have established this experiment at 4 locations and will be planting the winter wheat into the various stubble treatments this fall.

Sub-activity 2.1 (Test 221) The interaction of seed treatments and fall-applied foliar fungicides on winter hardiness and plant health of winter wheat.

This sub-activity parallels the objective of 1.1 as we wanted to completely explore seed treatment effects in winter wheat. In this study, we also introduce seed size, which we hope is proxy for seed vigour, and 2 levels of seeding rate, 200 or 400 seeds m⁻². These two factors combined with a seed treatment factor creates a range of agronomic systems from weak (low seed rate, small seed, no seed protection) to superior (high seed rate, heavy seed, dual seed treatment).

The responses have been similar to what has been observed in 1.1, which is that site that tend to have higher organic matter and less stress have not observed responses to seed treatments, whereas sites low in organic matter or more stressful have observed a response. For this experiment (test 221), when responses were observed, they were greatest in the weak agronomic system and tended to diminish with a stronger agronomic system.

Sub-activity 2.2 (Test 222) Integration of microbial control strategies to manage the cereal leaf beetle in winter wheat.

The cereal leaf beetle is considered an emerging pest of cereals, including winter wheat in the prairies. It was reported east of Lethbridge in 2005, in the Swan River region of northwest Manitoba in 2009 and south of Edmonton in 2011. Current efforts as part of this winter wheat DIAP, include integration of microbial pesticide control strategies with an effective parasitoid insect biocontrol agent (a natural enemy). In 2010 and 2011, Dr. Héctor Cárcamo and his team conducted laboratory studies testing Botanigard, an insect killing fungus that is registered in green houses for a number of horticultural pests. Results from the lab suggest that this product is effective and may have low toxicity to the natural enemy. A field study completed in 2011 is being analyzed and will be repeated in 2012.

Sub-activity 2.3 (Tests 223a and 223b) Development of algorithms using optical sensors to create yield potential models for integrated nutrient management.

The goal of this sub-activity is to develop an algorithm specific to the winter wheat grown in western Canada, which would be integrated into a Greenseeker optical sensor and used for precision in-crop fertility management. In 2010, experiments were initiated to develop a range of responses from western Canadian winter wheat cultivars. This fall, a second experiment has been initiated to validate the model created from the data collected this past season.

Sub-activity 2.4 (Tests 291 and 292) Optimizing seed quality and net returns through enhanced N management strategies for milling and general purpose winter wheat production in the Canadian prairies.

We have now completed this study and are in the process of preparing manuscripts for this sub-activity. A preliminary report was circulated earlier this year and is available from myself or Winter Cereals Canada. Since the release of the

Cont'd. on Page 3

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YOUR VOICE IN THE GRAIN GRADING SYSTEM

Did you know that as a grain producer, you can help shape Canada's grain grading system? While the Canadian Grain Commission is mandated by the Canada Grain Act to set grain standards and specifications, we rely on input from all parts of Canada's grain industry, including grain producers like you to help us set those standards and specifications.

You can bring grain grading issues forward for discussion through the Western Standards Committee. The committee meets each year in the spring and fall to discuss grading issues and to make recommendations to the Canadian Grain Commission about grain grades and specifications.

The Western Standards Committee makes recommendations based on careful study and review of grading issues. The committee works to:

- Make sure changes to the grading system reflect the interests and concerns of all stakeholders in Canada's grain sector, including producers.
- Constantly review Canada's grading system so that it continues to be relevant to the grain sector and to buyers of Canada's grain.

The committee is made up of members drawn from all parts of Canada's grain industry, including 12 grain producers who represent the interests of all Western producers. You can contact any member about your grading issue and they will tell you how your issue will be addressed.

The Western Standards Committee uses its sub-committees to gain information about grading issues for specific types of crops. There are four sub-committees: Wheat, Barley and Other Cereals, Oilseeds and Pulse. Again, members are drawn from all parts of the grain industry including producers.

Each sub-committee studies issues about its crops and advises the Western Standards Committee about specific crop-related concerns. The sub-committees also bring forward concerns about the grading system from the point of view of specific crops and gather input from all affected stakeholders.

To find out how to contact members of the Western Standards Committee or any of its sub-committees, go to www.grainscanada.gc.ca/gsccommittee-comiteng/wgsc-cngo-eng.htm.

SWCDC CALL FOR NOMINATIONS BECOME A DIRECTOR OF THE SASKATCHEWAN WINTER CEREALS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The SWCDC has openings for 3 positions on the producer elected Board of Directors. Three directors will be elected for a two year term ending at the annual General Meeting in January of 2014. SWCDC Directors participate in approximately 6 board meetings a year and contribute time to the SWCDC. Directors are called on to represent the SWCDC at conferences that impact the winter cereals industry. Expenses are reimbursed to Directors and a daily per diem remuneration is paid.

Registered winter cereals growers interested in joining the Board can contact the SWCDC business office at 1-866-472-4611 for nomination forms. Nomination forms must be returned to the Returning Officer no later than 12:00 p.m. (noon) October 26, 2011.

Note: Only registered growers may vote, nominate or hold office.

A registered grower means any grower who has had a Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission check-off deducted since August 1, 2009. A registered grower is not eligible to be nominated as a director if he or she has requested or received a refund of the check-off since August 1, 2009.

An election (if required) will be held by mail ballot with election results announced at the Annual General Meeting in Saskatoon, Sk. on January 9, 2012.

October 26, 2011 Nominations Close at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)
November 25, 2011 Ballots mailed if necessary.
December 16, 2011 Last day for ballots to be received.
January 9, 2012, Results announced at SWCDC Annual General Meeting

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SASKATCHEWAN WINTER CEREALS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

JANUARY 09, 2012

Saskatoon Inn Hotel & Conference Centre, 2002 Airport Dr., Saskatoon, SK, Canada, S7L 6M4

REGISTRATION 8:30 AM

BUSINESS MEETING 9:00AM TO 10:00 AM

INDUSTRY INFORMATION SESSIONS 10:00 AM TO 12:30 PM

Hear about research being funded by the SWCDC to enhance the production of winter cereals and much, much more!

All producers are invited. Only producers who have paid the Winter Cereals levy since August 1, 2009 and not requested a refund are eligible to vote.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
J. DAVIDSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 1-866-GRAIN-11
jake@swcdc.info

WINTER CEREALS MANITOBA INC NOTICE OF ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc. will be held in Brandon, Manitoba on March 15, 2012 at the Riverbank Discovery Center. During the meeting elections will be held for several positions on the Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc. board of directors.

If you are interested in becoming involved with promotion and research pertaining to Winter Wheat in the Province of Manitoba through participation on the Board of Directors please contact the Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc. office to learn more about this rewarding possibility. Directors participate in approximately 6 board meetings a year and contribute time to WCMI. Directors are called on to represent the WCMI at conferences and meetings that impact the winter wheat industry in Manitoba. Expenses are reimbursed to Directors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
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W.C.M.I. CHAIRMANS CORNER

Greetings to Manitoba Winter Wheat Growers!

The 2011 growing season will go down as a different year for all crops. We have gone from too wet to seed to drought like conditions in some areas of the province. Winter wheat has demonstrated its resilience to variable growing conditions. 2011 is a good example of that trait. Once established, it can handle wet conditions in the spring and matures early enough to take dry conditions in the summer

There were limited acres in the ground last fall because of wet ground conditions and late crops. This years crop came off with average yield, good quality and low vomitoxin.

The dry conditions we are experiencing this fall may influence the amount of winter wheat seeded this fall. In my area we did what the experts recommend 'seed into the dust - and hope for rain.' We did get the rain and good germination. I believe even with dry conditions, winter wheat acres will be up this fall because producers are seeing the benefit to this fall seeded crop.

Doug Martin, *Chairman, East Selkirk, Mb*

S.W.C.D.C. CHAIRMANS MESSAGE

Another crop year has passed, again far from normal. Many flooded acres were able to be seeded with winter wheat. This unseeded acreage is the driver behind increased acres this fall. My hope is that producers will discover the benefits of winter wheat...both agronomic and economic, and continue to grow this versatile crop in the future.

We have seen an increase in acres in the new General Purpose (CWGP) class of winters as reports of high yields encouraged producers near ethanol plants to sow those varieties. In the next couple years we will have 3 new red milling wheat varieties available as seed growers get breeder and select seed in the ground this fall. These are long awaited varieties as no new red milling winter wheat varieties have been released for some time.

These varieties offer improved milling quality, excellent yield potential, high protein, and the variety Emerson will be the first variety to offer improved resistance to fusarium. These are the traits the industry and farmers have been requesting, and our check off dollars help to make progress like this possible. Our check off not only funds plant breeding but agronomy work as well.

As we enter a new age in wheat marketing, one consideration for the SWCDC will be if we fund marketing projects in the same way other commodity groups like pulse, canola, mustard, and flax currently are doing. Best of luck in the new crop year, and I hope to see some of you at our Annual General Meeting as well.

Dale Hicks, *Chairman, Outlook, Sk*

Advertise in the Winter Cereals Grower

Winter Cereals Canada invites interested individuals and companies to advertise in the *Winter Cereals Grower*.

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Material should be submitted to:
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If you no longer wish to receive the Winter Cereal Grower newsletter, please send us either an e-mail with your name and address or send us a note with your mailing label requesting that your name be removed from the mailing list.



Cigi expertise used to evaluate CWRW potential



A recent project conducted by the Canadian International Grains Institute (Cigi) evaluating two CWRW varieties for use in steamed bread is one example of how Cigi is working to ensure its knowledge and technical expertise continue to benefit industry members in light of a potential change to the use of flour whitening agents in Southeast Asia.

The project was funded by the Alberta Winter Wheat Producers Commission (AWWPC) which was interested in gaining a better understanding of the potential application of the two CWRW varieties (Radiant and CDC Buteo) in steamed bread, a leavened wheat flour product resulting from the steaming of fermented wheat flour dough. In some Southeast Asian countries flours for steamed bread are bleached to produce the desired bright white surface. Regulation changes being considered to ban flour bleaching in these countries could create new opportunities for CWRW Select varieties whose naturally bright white flours have produced high quality steamed bread during previous research in Cigi's facilities. It is hoped further evaluations will be conducted with additional samples.

"Cigi's work on behalf of AWWPC is indicative of how we see our organization continuing to play a valuable role with different industry members in the future," says Cigi Executive Director Earl Geddes. "People know that our history has been based in wheat, durum and barley as a result of our work on behalf of the CWB for almost 40 years and we are also working with a wide number of other crops such as pulses. Cigi will be part of Canada's field crop industry going forward and our global knowledge will continue to position crops like CWRW at the highest value in world markets."

"If there is a change in the wheat marketing structure in Western Canada Cigi will be looking to develop relationships with associations like Winter Cereals Canada and others to carry on with the kinds of initiatives that historically the CWB has engaged Cigi to do," says Earl. Those initiatives could involve applied research projects like the one completed for AWWPC or the delivery of customized programs to help promote winter wheat in target markets around the globe.

With its knowledge and insight into customer preferences and processing requirements Cigi plays an integral role in determining where the best market opportunities exist for Canadian field crops. "We know what the end customer is looking for because we've worked with them, we've been in their processing facilities, we understand how regional tastes can affect what consumers are seeking in the products they are buying," says Earl.

In the case of steamed breads for example, which have been widely adapted in countries all over Asia, those preferences dictate the bread's formulation, processing method and final product characteristics, such as size, shape, texture and flavour.

"Whether it's bread, pasta, flour, noodles, that's the type of knowledge that Cigi brings to the table and the need for that knowledge isn't going away," says Earl. "We are very proud of the work we have done in conjunction with the CWB since 1972 and we want to build on that foundation so that we can continue to generate value for producers and the Canadian industry overall. Our goal is to engage with those innovative organizations and companies who are interested in creating profitable opportunities for our field crop producers and the grain industry."

THE BERES REPORT – Cont'd. from Page 1

report, we have worked on nitrogen uptake by Radiant and CDC Ptarmigan, as well as the various controlled release products. In terms of nitrogen utilized that was added during planting or in-season, Radiant appears to be more efficient. However, CDC Ptarmigan was more efficient at scavenging to recover soil nitrogen. Nitrogen uptake tended to be greatest in spring broadcast or split-application situations, using Agrotain or Super U. However, the results are not likely to be much different from urea, but they are likely to be better than the recovery observed in the ESN plots. This is likely due to the slower release rate typically observed in ESN in the northern Great Plains.

In terms of timing, split applications when topdressing is performed in spring were most effective at nitrogen recovery over sidebanding all nitrogen at the time of seeding or topdressing later in the fall).

Sub-activity 2.5 (Test 225) The interaction of herbicide selection and timing of application on suppression of Japanese and downy brome in winter wheat.

Downy brome has resurged and a new species, Japanese brome, has become established in southern Alberta and has infested a great portion of the winter wheat acres. We were interested to see if winter wheat would respond to timing (fall vs. spring applications) and product (Simplicity, Everest, or Velocity) interactions. Across all three sites in 2011, Simplicity and Everest provided the highest and similar efficacy ratings, which would fall into the category of 'suppression'. Control in the Velocity plots was not as good. Based on the data collected to date for timing, we would recommend that producers apply in spring as some of the Everest treatments applied in fall exhibited toxicity effects at the Lethbridge site.

Summary

It has been a very rewarding experience thus far working with Duck's Unlimited, Winter Cereals Canada, Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc, Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Committee, and the Alberta Winter Wheat Producer's Commission. I think we have created some momentum for interest in winter wheat production and have established a great synergy between the agronomy research community and the industry partners. I hope this momentum can carry forward for several more years!

Brian Beres, B.A, B.Ed, Ph.D., P.Ag.

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Effect of Seed Treatment on Plant Stands and Yield in Winter Wheat

Prepared by Pamela de Rocquigny, MAFRI Cereal Crop Specialist

In 2010, higher than normal levels of Fusarium head blight were detected in many winter wheat fields in Manitoba. Questions arose around the use of seed treatments in winter wheat production and their role in managing fusarium-infected seed. Since seed treatments can protect germinating seed and young seedlings from seed-borne and soil-borne pathogens, a 2-year trial was undertaken to look at the effect of seed treatments on seed lots with varying levels of Fusarium graminearum.

Experimental Design

Two seed lots of CDC Falcon were used with different levels of Fusarium graminearum. There were 7 seed treatments applied to each seed lot in addition to an untreated 'check'. The entries included Cruiser Maxx Cereals, Cruiser Maxx Cereals Proseed, Gemini, Raxil WW, Raxil MD, an experimental product from BASF and an experimental product from Bayer CropScience. Trials were located at Arborg, Beausejour, Carberry, Carman, Melita, Portage, Roblin, Stonewall and Winnipeg. Site cooperators measured plant stands in the fall and spring and yield to help determine if there are any differences between seed treated and untreated in the two seed lots.

Preliminary Results

Currently, yield data is only available for the locations of Arborg, Portage, Stonewall, Roblin, and Beausejour (see Table 1). Preliminary results indicate there was no significant difference in yield between the various seed treatments and the untreated check. However, at the Roblin and Beausejour sites, there was a significant difference between the various seed treatments.

For the 5 locations, only Arborg, Portage and Stonewall had both spring and fall plant stand data (not presented). In the fall, only the Portage site saw significant differences between seed treatments where all treatments had a significant improvement over the untreated check. In the spring, only the Arborg site saw a significant difference in plant stand counts between the seed treatments. Although there was an effect of seed treatment on plant stands at these two sites, this did not translate into an effect on yield.

Keep in mind these are only preliminary results and data for all sites were not available at time of publication. As well, Viterra is currently measuring thousand kernel weight and protein on composite samples to help determine impact on quality. The 2011/12 growing season

will be the second year of this trial and as additional results become available over the next year, updates will be provided.

Final Thoughts

The first course of action should always be to secure top quality seed to maximize crop production and profitability. If you suspect issues with disease pressure, test your seed. Commercial seed laboratories can determine the percentage and species of Fusarium. Since studies from AAFC have shown that fusarium damaged kernels can affect stand establishment and yield, it is important to not use seed with extremely high levels. For seed lots with lower disease pressure, use of seed treatments is recommended as a best management practice. But keep in mind that seed treatments do not bring back to life dead seeds and seed treatments will not prevent fusarium head blight from developing later in the season from stubble-born inoculum where Fusarium species are already present.

Thank you to Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc., Bayer CropScience, Syngenta, BASF and MCVET for their financial support. Thank you to our site contractors PESAI, WADO, PCDF, CMCDC, ICMS, and the University of Manitoba and to Viterra for quality analysis.

Table 1: Yield Response to Seed Treatments at Various Manitoba Locations (2011).

Seed Treatment	2011 Yield by Location (Bushels/Acre)				
	Arborg	Portage	Stonewall	Roblin	Beausejour
Untreated	84	113	95	84	93
Cruiser Maxx Cereals	83	110	92	84	92
Cruiser Maxx Cereals Proseed	86	110	90	85	91
Gemini	78	110	94	82	92
Raxil MD	82	116	93	90	88
Raxil WW	86	110	96	87	93
BASF-Experimental	83	109	95	90	93
Bayer-Experimental	86	118	94	93	94
CV	6.8	.2	3.4	6.4	2.1
LSD	-	-	-	7	2
Sign Diff	No	No	No	Yes	Yes

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Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc. is proud to provide funding for the MCVET trials on behalf of Manitoba winter wheat producers and our members.