

WINTER CEREALS

CANADA 

G R O W E R

Incorporating **SASKATCHEWAN Winter Cereals DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION News**

LOOKING GOOD FOR 2007!

Seeding spring crops in most areas without excess moisture has been completed on schedule and spraying for various weeds and other farming challenges is in progress. Winter cereals crops that were fertilized many weeks ago are now flourishing and as per plan well ahead of spring crops. Driving along any highway or country road in winter cereals country it is difficult not to notice the lush green fields next to their just emerged spring cousins. Reports of significant winter damage were few and far between with only typical reports of the usual thin crops on the tops of knolls or in places where water sat too long this spring.

For many first time prairie producers of winter cereals the apprehension as they waited for the opportunity to assess the status of their fall seeded crops turned to expressions of relief and new awareness of the practicality of growing a fall seeded crop.

The Board and staff of Winter Cereals Canada Inc. and the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission are pleased to continually interact with so many prairie producers. We welcome your calls and questions on everything from agronomic practices to issues related to the funding of ongoing research. Winter Cereals Canada Inc. is appreciative of the large number of winter wheat producers who are continuing to provide support for our attempts to establish a provincially recognized voice for winter cereals. The message was quite clear from visitors to our display at Ag days and the ManDak Zero Tillage Conference just few weeks later. We must continue to work towards the formation of a Manitoba organization with the authority to collect a winter cereal levy and support research into new cultivars and agronomic practices that will benefit Manitoba producers. Research is the foundation of agricultural progress and we must ensure that producer's interests and concerns are at the forefront of winter cereals breeding and agronomy.

March found Winter Cereals Canada Inc. in Yorkton Saskatchewan for our 2007 Annual General Meeting and Production Seminar. The attendees enjoyed a full day of speakers dealing with topics as diverse as how to fertilize for maximum protein to how to grow winter cereals for the low protein ethanol market, and the politics of winter cereals breeding and licensing. Highlights from the presentations will be included in future issues of the Winter Cereals Grower.

This year's meeting saw the retirement of long time Director Mark Weatherald of Wawota, Saskatchewan. While Mark is leaving Winter Cereals Canada Inc's board he remains deeply involved in the issues concerning winter cereals in Saskatchewan as the Vice Chair of the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission.

We welcome Kevin Elmy of Saltcoats, Saskatchewan as our newest board member. Kevin's family operate Friendly Acres Seed Farm just outside of Saltcoats, Saskatchewan. Kevin has been involved with many farm organizations in the past and his experience will be invaluable to the future of Winter Cereals Canada Inc.

Winter Cereals Canada Inc. and the SWCDC have been involved in discussions with the CWB on the future of the Select program and potential changes to the program related to delivery options and delivery points. On another front WCC and SWCDC have been working with the Western Grains Research Foundation, Alberta Winter Wheat Producers Commission and Ducks Unlimited Canada and have formed a "Winter Cereals Support Committee". This working committee will lobby various government departments and support prairie researchers to ensure a future for winter wheat breeding research in western Canada.

With this summer issue of the Winter Cereals Grower we welcome even more new producer members of the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission to our distribution list. Through this newsletter the SWCDC will keep members informed of pertinent happenings in the winter cereals industry. SWCDC members should check pages 6 & 7 for news.

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Canada Post
Publication Mail Agreement #40035270

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P.O. Box 689
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Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting of Winter Cereals Canada

March 21, 2007 Best Western Hotel, Yorkton, Saskatchewan

- The meeting was called to order by President Mr. Garth Butcher at 1:05 PM CST with about 50 persons in attendance.
- During the morning sessions Mr. J. Davidson had called for Nominations for Directors and also for Resolutions one time.
- Mr. Garth Butcher opened the meeting with general remarks and welcomed all participants.
- Mr. Garth Butcher called for Nominations a second time.
- Mr. Garth Butcher called for Nominations a third time.
- Mr. Brent Schram nominated Mr. Garth Butcher, Seconded by Mr. Rod Fedoruk.
- Mr. Brent Schram nominated Mr. Rod Fedoruk, Seconded by Mr. Dave Newhouse
- Mr. Rod Fedoruk nominated Kevin Elmy, Seconded by Mr. Brent Schram.
- Mr. Dave Newhouse moved and Mr. Ken Gross seconded that nominations for Directors be closed. Carried. As a result Mr. Garth Butcher, Mr. Rod Fedoruk and Mr. Kevin Elmy were acclaimed as directors for a 2 year term.
- Mr. Rod Fedoruk moved and Mr. Brent Schram seconded the acceptance of the 2006 AGM minutes as published in the handout provided to attendees. Carried.
- Mr. Jake Davidson, Executive Manager presented the 2006 audited financial statements. Mr. Brent Schram moved acceptance and Mr. Ken Gross seconded the motion. Carried.
- Mr. Brent Schram moved and Mr. Dave Newhouse seconded that John's Tax Service of Minnedosa, Manitoba be appointed the Auditor for 2006. Carried.
- Mr. Garth Butcher called for Resolutions a second time.
- Mr. Garth Butcher called for Resolutions a third time. No Resolutions were received.
- Mr. Jake Davidson presented the Executive Managers report.
- No other business was introduced,
- Mr. David Shaw moved adjournment at 1:35 pm.

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2007-2008 Board of Directors

Garth Butcher, President
Birtle, Mb. (204) 842-3713

Dave Newhouse
Hagen, Sk. (306) 749-2437

Kevin Elmy, Vice-President
Saltcoats, Sk. (306) 744-2779

Rick Rutherford
Grosse Isle, Mb. (204) 467-5613

Brent Schram, Treasurer
Brandon, Mb. (204) 725-3952

Rod Fedoruk
Kamsack, Sk. (306) 542-4235

J. A. Davidson, Executive Manager
Minnedosa, MB (204) 874-2257

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CWB REPORT: VARIETY SURVEY TRENDS FOR WINTER WHEAT

Mike Grenier, CWB Agronomist

A record 1.2 million acres of winter wheat were seeded in the Prairies last fall (see Figure 1.) Current crop conditions for winter wheat look very good with predictions for another early harvest, and more farmers are becoming interested in including winter wheat in crop rotation plans.

One of the keys to success with winter wheat is early seeding. It's never too early to start variety selection and lining up seed supplies. The CWB variety survey provides information on variety adoption to help you make your seeding choices. See page 7 on how you can participate in the CWB variety survey.

There are a total of 12 varieties of winter wheat eligible for delivery as Canada Western Red Winter (CWRW) wheat. Varieties differ considerably in their end-use quality characteristics and agronomic performance. The survey results show marked differences in variety adoption between provinces due to differences in agronomic performance, regional adaptability and end-use markets (see table 1.).

Table 1: 2006 CWB Variety Survey Canada Western Red Winter (CWRW) wheat

Variety	Praire Average	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta
CDC Falcon	33.0	73.1	6.8	0.9
*AC Bellatrix	16.7	0.0	11.5	56.0
*CDC Buteo	13.2	8.9	26.2	0.0
CDC Clair	9.3	1.0	18.4	9.8
CDC Raptor	7.8	3.4	17.7	0.0
*Radiant	6.5	0.0	3.7	23.0
*McClintock	3.7	7.1	2.1	0.0
*CDC Osprey	3.4	0.0	7.7	2.9
CDC Harrier	2.8	4.7	2.3	0.0
*AC Tempest	1.3	0.0	0.9	4.2
*Norstar	1.0	1.4	1.2	0.0
*AC Readymade	0.7	0.0	0.0	3.1
CDC Kestrel	0.7	0.3	1.4	0.2
Total Select	46.5	17.4	53.3	89.2
Total Non-Select	53.6	82.5	46.6	10.9

*Denote CWRW Select eligible varieties

In Saskatchewan, CDC Buteo, a more recent variety introduction, has grown dramatically showing a tenfold increase in acres to gain the number-one ranking at 26 per cent. Most of this increase came from CDC Clair which continues to decline in acreage, and has dropped to number-two ranking. CDC Raptor shows steady acreage at just below 18 per cent maintaining number-three ranking. AC Bellatrix, CDC Osprey and CDC Falcon also showed declines in acreage but maintained their fourth to sixth rankings respectively.

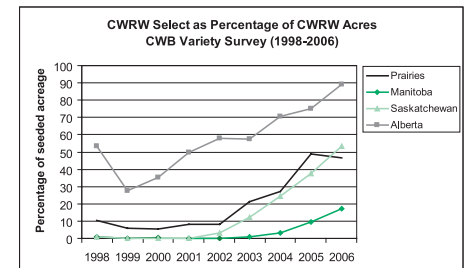
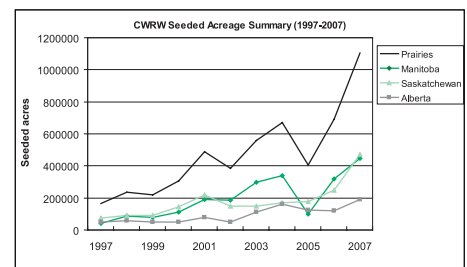
In Manitoba, CDC Falcon continues to dominate provincial acreage at 73 per cent. We are starting to see an increase in acreage of Select eligible varieties in the western part of the province. Select varieties CDC Buteo and McClintock continue to show increases in acreage; at nine per cent and seven percent, they have gained second and third ranking respectively. CDC Raptor declined to just over three per cent while CDC Harrier held steady at just under five per cent.

Overall, CWRW Select varieties continue to show improved popularity across the Prairies (see Figure 2.) Select varieties are most popular in Alberta, accounting for close to 90 per cent of seeded acreage. In Saskatchewan, Select varieties have also increased to more than 50 per cent of total acres seeded to winter wheat. Growth has been slower in Manitoba, but has shown a steady increase over the last few years. With the introduction of varieties such as CDC Buteo and McClintock that offer improved disease resistance and agronomic performance, Select varieties now stand at 17% for the province.

Challenges remain for growing the Select program in order to improve our supply capacity to meet market demand and to capitalize on opportunities for this type of wheat quality. The CWB has introduced a number a changes to the CWRW Select Identity Preserved Contract Program including consolidation of delivery points and most notably a reduction in protein level to 11 per cent from 11.5 per cent. Winter wheat growers wanting to learn more about the premiums available with the CWRW Select program can contact the CWB or visit www.cwb.ca. The CWB in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited will be holding a number of winter wheat field days in Saskatchewan between July 10 to the 12, refer to the notice in this newsletter for more information on these field tours.

It is important to note that farmers participating in CWB Identity Preserved Contract Programs such as CWRW Select can also utilize any of the various Producer Payment Options (PPOs) that are available from CWB. For 2006-07, winter wheat growers took advantage of the Daily Price Contract (DPC), Basis Payment Contract (BPC) and Fixed Price Contract (FPC) programs to lock in prices and manage their cash flow. Select winter wheat growers contracting and delivering directly to with domestic millers can also capitalize on the Value-added Incentive Program (VIP).

For more information call 1-800-275-4292 or e-mail: mike_grenier@cwb.ca





Send in your grain samples through the CGC's Harvest Sample program

Each fall, the Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) analyses thousands of harvest samples from producers like you. The Harvest Sample program is part of our annual assessment of crop quality. The more harvest samples we receive from producers, the better the representation of the crop.

The program is used to assess and confirm the quality and consistency of Canadian grain. Information is posted on our web site at www.grainscanada.gc.ca. Domestic and international millers, bakers and food manufacturers can learn how this year's crop will perform in processing.

Your harvest sample helps provide confirmation to marketers, buyers and processors about the consistent quality of Canadian wheat, oilseeds and pulses.

Get free sample results: You can receive useful information from the Harvest Sample program. Four to eight weeks after sending in your samples, the CGC will give you the following free grading and quality analysis on your samples:

- Unofficial grade and protein content for cereal grains and pulses
- Unofficial grade, oil, protein and chlorophyll content for canola
- Unofficial grade, oil and protein content and iodine value for flaxseed

How do I sign up? The CGC needs your consent to include your name on the Harvest Sample mailing list. This means you agree to receive a Harvest Sample kit. The kit contains your Harvest Sample Identification Number, sample envelopes for the crops you indicate you are growing and instructions on sending in your samples and getting your free results.

To participate in the Harvest Sample program, you can:

- Use the on-line sign-up service under How to sign up for the Harvest Sample program available on the CGC's web site at grainscanada.gc.ca
- Send an email message to harvestsurvey@grainscanada.gc.ca
- Call (204) 983-2978 or toll-free 1-888-324-2248

You can remove your name from the Harvest Sample mailing list at any time.

How do I send a harvest sample? During the harvest, you put a sample of your crop in the Harvest Sample envelope. Complete the information on the envelope and take it to a post office or drop it in any mailbox. The CGC pays the postage.

How do I get my results? Grading results are available within four weeks for wheat and oilseeds, and within six to eight weeks for pulses. You will require your Harvest Sample Identification Number to obtain your results.

You can receive your results by:

- Using our web service available at Get grading results on your harvest on the CGC's web site at grainscanada.gc.ca
- Sending an email message to harvestsurvey@grainscanada.gc.ca
- Calling our 24-hour toll-free number at 1-888-324-2248
- Visiting the CGC booth at agricultural shows this fall and winter

What does the CGC do with my harvest sample? When your harvest sample arrives, we grade and assess it for quality factors and then combine it with other samples to make larger samples, or composites. Composite samples of wheat, oilseeds and pulses are milled, mixed, baked, crushed, cooked and analyzed for their processing characteristics.

Data from analytical tests describes the processing quality of each class and grade of grain, each year. The data is important because environmental conditions can cause slight variations in processing quality within each grade, from year to year. Data is used to identify potential problems with the crop that may cause customer concerns. Samples are also used for research and monitoring purposes.

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.



Testing pulse crops

Pulse is a derivative of the Latin word puls, meaning “porridge”. As members of the legume family, pulse crops, such as peas, beans, chick peas and lentils are pod-bearing plants that produce dry edible seeds.

What are the types of tests for pulse crops?

All pulse samples are tested for protein content, while only lentils are tested for seed size distribution. Pulse samples, graded Canada No. 1 or No. 2, are tested for the following:

- 100-seed weight
- Water hydration capacity
- Cooking time (peas and white pea beans)
- Cooked texture (peas and white pea beans)
- Dehulling efficiency (red lentils)
- Starch content

Testing oilseed crops

Oilseeds are used in food products such as frying oils, mayonnaise and margarine. They are also used in industrial products, such as linoleum flooring, concrete preservatives and lubricants.

What are the types of tests for oilseeds?

Oilseeds are tested for five chemical components. They are:

- Oil content
- Fatty acid composition
- Protein content
- Chlorophyll
- Free fatty acids

Testing wheat crops

Wheat is suitable for a wide range of products from bread to pasta to cookies. Each product calls for different flour specifications.

What are the types of tests for wheat?

While some testing among wheat classes is identical, such as that which determines falling number, there are specific tests applied to each of the wheat classes grown in western Canada. For instance, pasta testing for Canada Western Amber Durum wheat is not applied to Canada Western Soft White Spring wheat, which undergoes a cookie test evaluation. The following tests are common to all wheat classes:

- Falling number
- Protein content
- Kernel hardness

TRITICALE GROWERS

Interest is growing in Winter Triticale from many different sectors of the agricultural industry. In our Spring Issue we requested growers contact us in order that we can inform our readers of seed availability. If you are interested in Triticale contact the following producers.

Mr. Rod Lanier
NeverIdle Farms Ltd.
 Box 537, Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 3Z4
 Ph: 403-327-9229
 403-327-8348
 rodlanier@platinum.ca

Mr. Ken Schmidt
Waldersee Seeds
 Waldersee, Manitoba R0J 2G0
 Ph: 204-352-2242
 Fax: 204-352-4468

Warren Kaeding
Wagon Wheel Seed Corp.
 Box 229, Churchbridge, Saskatchewan S0A 0M0
 Available: Common Bearded Winter Triticale
 Ph:306-896-2236
 Fax: 306-896-2696
 wagon.wheel@sasktel.net

Kevin Elmy
Friendly Acres Seed Farm
 Box 492, Saltcoats, Saskatchewan S0A 3R0
 Ph: 306-744-2779 of 306-744-2332
 Fax: 306-744-2410
 kevin.elmy@friendlyacres.sk.ca

*Advertise in the
 Winter Cereals Grower*

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

Full page.....	\$500.00
3/4 page	\$350.00
1/2 page	\$275.00
1/4 page	\$130.00

Multiple insertion discount 10%
 GST will not be added to these prices.
 Brochures, flyers or other inserts quoted as required.
 All advertising material must be camera ready or suitable for scanning. Advertorial content is accepted at the standard rates. Advertising deadlines are March 1st, June 1st and November 1st.
 Material should be submitted to:

Winter Cereals Canada Inc.
 P.O. Box 689, Minnedosa, MB R0J 1E0
 (204) 874-2257 • jake@wintercerealscanada.org

NEWS FROM THE SASKATCHEWAN WINTER CEREALS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



The Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission is an organization that is still in its infancy. Since our inception in August of 2006 we have had to organize the registration of buyers of

winter cereals province wide and on October 1, 2006 we initiated the collection of our \$0.50 per tonne levy on all winter cereals marketed in the Province of Saskatchewan. This undertaking could not have been accomplished without the aid of the Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission acting as Levy Central and in particular the assistance of Christine Colborne and Nichole Yip.

The staff and directors were very pleased to meet so many supportive producers in our booth at this year's Crop Production Show. Despite the disruptions brought by a massive blizzard we had the opportunity to discuss issues of concern with hundreds of Saskatchewan winter cereal producers.

While we are a young commission with limited funding we have moved quickly to start fulfilling our mandate as the representative voice for Saskatchewan's winter cereals producers. One issue in particular has been recognized as being a key to continued growth and prosperity. This concern is the continuance of a winter wheat breeding program at the University of Saskatchewan and the Crop

Development Center. To facilitate an open and productive dialogue on this matter we have joined with four other concerned organizations to develop a long term proposal designed to ensure continuance of Saskatchewan's leadership role in this sector. Our partners are the Alberta Winter Wheat Producers Commission, Western Grains Research Foundation, Winter Cereals Canada Inc. and Ducks Unlimited Canada. Once complete this proposal will be presented to various government ministries and the research community.

Interested producers and buyers of winter cereals may review the Winter Cereals Development Plan, The Agri-Food Act and the various Board Orders that give the Commission its responsibilities and powers by visiting us online at www.wintercerealscanada.org and clicking on the commission logo. Information on SWCDC initiatives will be posted on the website as they become available.

Winter cereal producers have much to look forward to. New varieties, increased demand from the ethanol industry and knowing that winter cereals are a positive contribution to our environment will ensure strong markets and a strong future. Times have changed and the increases in winter cereal acres are a testimony to this fact. If you are interested in participating in our growth please see page 7 for information on becoming a member of our Board of Directors.

THE SASKATCHEWAN WINTER CEREALS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION?

The SWCDC is currently made up of five volunteer members from across Saskatchewan. All commissioners are enthusiastic about the development of an expanded and strong winter cereals industry in Saskatchewan. The volunteer members will hold office until the commission holds its first annual meeting. The first annual general meeting will be held in January, 2008. Your current SWCDC board is as follows:

Interim Chairman: Mr. Rod Fedoruk
Kamsack, Saskatchewan
306-542-4235

Mr. Dave Newhouse
Hagan, Saskatchewan
306-749-2437

Mr. Paul Thoroughgood
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan
306-692-4291

Interim Vice Chairman: Mr. Mark Weatherald
Wawota, Saskatchewan
306-739-2927
Mr. Lee Moats
Riceton, Saskatchewan
306-738-4716

Head Office Address: P.O. Box 344
NW 2-30-32 W1
North Windsor Avenue
Kamsack, Saskatchewan S0A 1S0

Business Office for General Enquiries, Refunds etc:

Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission
c/o Winter Cereals Canada Inc.
P.O. Box 689
Minnedosa, Manitoba R0J 1E0

1-866-GRAIN-11 (1-866-472-4611)
Executive Director: J.A. (Jake) Davidson, P.Ag. PAS

The Winter Cereals Grower and Winter Cereals Canada Inc. are pleased to collaborate with the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission to provide Saskatchewan growers of winter cereals news from the Commission and other industry partners.

VARIETY SURVEY- PARTICIPATE AND WIN

Winter Cereals Canada Inc. is a strong proponent of producer education as one form of promoting the cultivation of winter cereals in western Canada. The most effective form of education comes from information transfer between individual producers. Essentially learning from your fellow farmers. The CWB Variety Survey is one of the most effective methods of sharing information between producers across western Canada. Participate in this years survey and be entered to win one of several valuable prizes.

YOUR SURVEY, YOUR RESULTS

The annual CWB Variety Survey

- provides information on variety adoption to help you make your seeding choices
- helps the CWB develop plans to market your grain to your customers
- gives direction to plant breeders and seed growers

More completed surveys mean better information for you and your customers. Save time and fill out your 2007-08 CWB Variety Survey online!

The survey will be posted on the CWB Web site at the end of June. It takes less than ten minutes to fill out and submit. If you prefer, you can fill out the paper version you receive by mail and return it by fax or post.

Win a prize

Remember to include your full name and ID number to be eligible for the Variety Survey draws.

Early Bird draw - Submit your survey by July 31, 2007 and you could win:

- a tri-fold aluminum truck ramp worth \$300
(you will also be eligible for the later draws)

On-line draw - Submit your survey online and you could win:

- a Prairie Geomatics GPSMAP 76CSx hand-held Global Positioning System worth \$500+
(you will also be eligible for the later draws)

Anyone who submits a survey by October 1, 2007 could win:


- a \$2000 voucher for certified seed from SeCan*
- a \$500 voucher for certified seed from the Canadian Seed Growers' Association (CSGA) Voucher cost-shared by the CWB.

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**Winning
with
Winter Wheat**

**2007
Field
Days**

Esk, SK
July 10, 2007
10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Meet at the farmyard of Charles and Maurice Wildeman in Esk, on south side of Hwy #16

Dinsmore, SK
July 11, 2007
10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



Meet at the farmyard of Kirk and Don Elliott, 4.5 miles south of junction Hwys #15 and #42; or 5.5 miles north of junction Hwys #44 and #42

Bruno, SK
July 12, 2007
10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Meet at Bruno sports grounds at south end of town

Barbeque lunch to follow

For details, visit www.cwb.ca
To register, call 1-306-975-6999

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

The SWCDC is about to elect their first producer elected Board of Directors. Five directors will be elected, three for a two year term and two for a 1 year term. SWCDC Directors will participate in approximately 4 board meetings a year and contribute time to the SWCDC. Directors are called on to represent the SWCDC at meetings and major conferences that impact the winter cereals industry. Expenses are reimbursed to Directors.

Registered winter cereals growers interested in joining the Board can contact the SWCDC business office at 1-866-472-4611 for nomination forms and return them to the Returning Officer no later than 12:00 p.m. October 26, 2007.

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 between October 1, 2006 and July 31, 2007. 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 October 1, 2006.

An election (if required) will be held by mail ballot with election results announced at the Annual General Meeting in Saskatoon, Sk. in January 2008.

October 26, 2007 Nominations Close at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

November 16, 2007 Ballots mailed if necessary.

December 10, 2007 Last day for ballots to be received.

January 2008, Results announced at SWCDC Annual General meeting

JOIN WINTER CEREALS CANADA AND HAVE A VOICE

Winter Cereals Canada Inc. is a producer governed and driven organization dedicated to ensuring that the three winter cereal crops (winter wheat, fall rye and winter triticale) are promoted and marketed to their maximum potential. We are involved in varietal registration, directing the course of plant breeding and distributing information on agronomic practices, current market news and other relevant information to western Canadian producers. In order to continue to grow and service all sectors we need you to join Winter Cereals Canada Inc. Individual membership is \$50.00 for one year and \$100.00 for three years. Corporate memberships are \$500.00 and include links from our web page to the sponsors page and recognition in the newsletter.

To join send your cheque or money order to Winter Cereals Canada Inc., Box 689, Minnedosa, Manitoba R0J 1E0 or for more information contact us either by email jake@wintercerealscanada.org or by telephone 204-874-2257. Help ensure a bright future for winter cereals in Western Canada. Join now to help ensure a bright future for winter cereals.

ADVERTISEMENT

FALL FERTILIZATION OPTIONS FOR WINTER CEREALS

Within western Canada, research based information on effective options available for fertilizer application has been dominated by an emphasis on spring-seeded crops. Similar research for crops planted in the fall of the year has been considerably slower to develop. There has, however, been a resurgence of interest in growing winter wheat, and for that reason, this is an appropriate time to review the agronomic options that are available for growing winter cereal crops.

In the early years of winter wheat production, agronomists tended to discourage the application of N fertilizer at the time the crop was being planted. These recommendations were based on the fear that N fertilizer would encourage lush growth and, thus, predispose the young winter wheat crop to higher levels of winter wheat kill. Subsequent research demonstrated that N-deficient winter wheat seedlings resulting from seeding into fields with very low levels of available-N could, in fact, be more vulnerable to winter kill than were seedlings fertilized with N.

Researchers came to realize that a balanced application of an N-P fertilizer (as well as K, if required) was the best approach to getting the winter cereal seedlings off to a good start. This means taking the steps required to ensure that they were established with a good supply of fertilizer nutrients. It is now an accepted fact that a balanced application of N-P fertilizer in or near the seedrow at the time of planting a winter cereal crop is a recommended agronomic practice for getting a good winter cereal crop established.

The selected fertilizer program may or may not involve the application of all of the N fertilizer required at the time of planting. However, the application of an N-P based blend at the time of seeding, rather than just a P supplying fertilizer, should definitely be considered in order to ensure the establishment of seedlings that are best equipped to survive the rigors of a prairie winter.

For best crop and fertilizer performance, it is generally recommended that the N fertilizer should be applied either in or near the seedrow (i.e. either in a sideband or midrow position). Application of N within the seedrow using a single-shoot opener can be appealing since it can often be accomplished with less soil disturbance and seedbed disruption than is the case with sideband or midrow banding systems.

There are restrictions on the amount of N that can be safely applied within the seedrow. Exceeding the recommended limits can result in reduced seedling emergence, root damage and a weak stand. The damage actually results from the conversion of urea into a chemical that readily releases ammonia (i.e. ammonium carbonate or as it is often referred to as "smelling salts").

The treatment of the urea with AGROTAIN can effectively delay the release of the damaging ammonia until after the seedlings have sufficiently rooted to withstand any serious risk of damage. The rate of AGROTAIN treated urea can be increased by up to 50% compared to the published "safe" rates for seedrow application of untreated urea, thereby making it an attractive N fertilizer application option.

There are also plastic coated urea products that will also reduce the risk of germination damage in seedrow applications. Growers should conduct price comparisons between these products and AGROTAIN treated urea, so that they can determine which approach will be most cost effective for their farming operation.

Poorly drained or excessively wet soils can predispose fall-applied urea to over-winter losses of N. In most cases, winter wheat is planted on fields in which the soil moisture reserves have been very significantly depleted by the just harvested crop. In such situations, these fields can absorb a fair amount of rain and snowmelt before a serious problem with excess moisture arises. The application of AGROTAIN will also provide additional assurance that N fertilizer applied at the time of planting will be in place for the critical early season period when the winter wheat plants start to grow and are establishing their maximum yield potential.

Some growers will choose the option of broadcasting a significant portion of the N requirements for their winter wheat crops. They have a choice of conducting the broadcast application either in the fall or the spring of the year. Getting spring broadcast applied urea or liquid N effectively moved into the rooting zone early in the spring can be a very challenging task. However, a supply of fertilizer N is critical for supporting the early growth of the winter cereal crop. For that reason, late fall broadcast applications can be more effective, especially in the drier regions, as well as on well-drained soils of the Black soil zones.

Getting N fertilizer effectively applied for winter cereal crops presents a number of unique and challenging obstacles. The addition of AGROTAIN to urea and liquid fertilizers will assist in overcoming many of these crop production challenges. Regardless of whether you are applying N fertilizer within the seedrow, in a sideband or midrow band position at the time of planting the crop, or you are planning a late fall or early spring broadcast N application, AGROTAIN will help your investment in N fertilizer to be more effective.

Treatment of your urea or liquid fertilizer with AGROTAIN will provide you with the assurance that you have exercised the best possible fertilizer N management and that the fertilizer N will be there when your crop needs it!

AGROTAIN – Stable and Available Nitrogen for your Winter Cereals.



Global Market Place Realities

Your questions Answered by Earl Geddes, Vice President, Canadian Wheat Board

At the Winter Cereals AGM this year, a farmer asked whether the Western Canadian industry should focus their efforts on higher quality wheat or whether we should shift our focus from quality to volume. This is a very good question and one that should consider some global wheat marketplace realities before answering.

Western Canada competes in the global wheat marketplace with mainly six other suppliers. These are Australia, United States, EU-27, Russia, Ukraine, and Argentina. Western Canadian farmers are further from tide water and have fewer transportation options than our competitors. The centre of Western Canadian production is 1,450 km from the ocean. By comparison, farmers in five competing countries are 160-675 km from tide water. The exception is the northern growing area of the U.S. where the predominant wheat production is durum and Dark Northern Spring wheat similar to the Canadian Prairies.

I think we would all agree that there is growing opportunity in the domestic Canadian market for a high-yielding, low-protein wheat for the ethanol and livestock feeding industries. Establishment of the Canada Western General Purpose wheat class will create the focus and opportunity for varieties of high-yielding, low-baking quality wheat to be developed and registered. One has to keep in mind that this marketplace may reach four or optimistically six million tonnes over the next decade. Current wheat production in Western Canada is in the neighbourhood of 22 million tonnes.

It is interesting to examine the global competitive environment for the different types of wheat. World wheat suppliers have an easier time producing low-value, high-volume wheat than they do producing higher-quality, higher-value wheat. Consider the charts below. The high-yielding, low-value segment of the world wheat market produces 225-250 million metric tonnes of wheat and has many competitors. The higher-quality segment produces 25-30 million metric tonnes of wheat and has a smaller number of competitors. The CWB believes that there continues to be value in marketing within the higher-quality segment where higher prices reign.

The price of higher-value wheat relative to lower-quality wheat has been rising over the last 30 years. If you consider chart 3, you can see that the spread between higher-quality and lower-quality wheat as shown by the red line has increased over time, resulting in an upward trend (green line). From 1970 to 2006, the spread has on average increased from \$12.00 per tonne to \$56.00 per tonne.

Chart 1: Production trend of low-value wheat

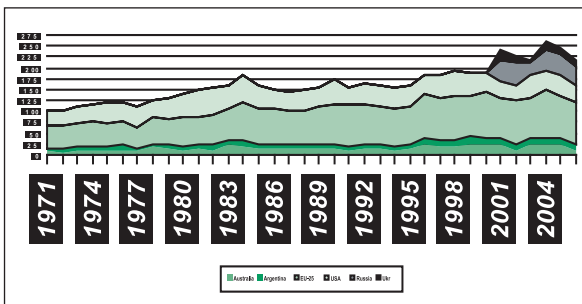
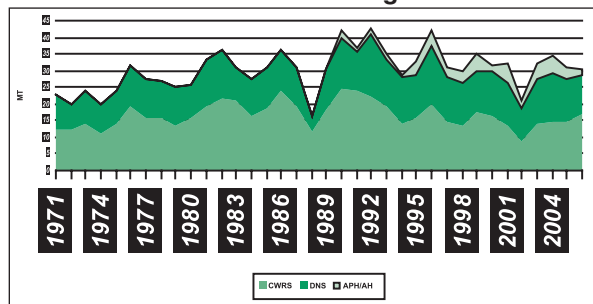
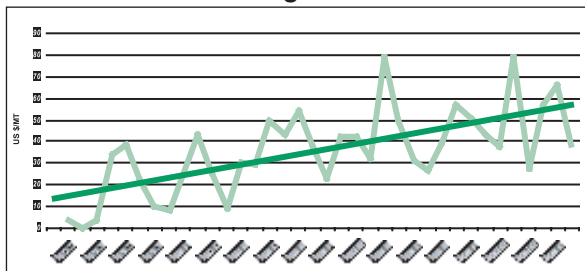


Chart 2: Production trend of high-value wheat



This price change is a result of the relative ease for many countries to produce higher-yielding wheat and the difficulty to produce high-quality wheat combined with demand for higher quality wheat for blending purposes. Only in the U.S. northern plains where the cost of freight to market is similar to Western Canada do we find any significant production of high quality spring wheat.

Chart 3: High-value market segment compared to low-value market segment



So what is Western Canada's value proposition? Certainly, there will be a market for generic feed quality wheat going forward. However, the essence of marketing is to extract extra value by creating products that are rare, difficult to copy and have significant value to your customers. Our system and products are difficult to duplicate.

Given the large number of competing sellers and our distance to tide water, Western Canada cannot afford to shift our focus wholly to the production of lower-quality wheat. We would be turning our back on significant investments in Canada's quality assurance system and our strong international reputation for consistent quality products.

We would also be trying to extract value for our farmers from grains that are sold at a lesser value, in highly competitive markets, at a

lower premium, and still pay more than most of our competitors to move that grain from farm to vessel. It is important that we continue to focus our domestic milling and export sales program on the higher quality segment of the market in order to achieve the greatest success for farmers.



This changes everything.

*Introducing new **ESNSmartNitrogen** – polymer-coated, control-release fertilizer for winter wheat.*

ESN Smart Nitrogen is the only N fertilizer that improves both your nitrogen-use efficiency and your yields.

One fall application on winter wheat, eliminates an additional spring application. After that, the new, technologically-advanced polymer coating releases N under optimal moisture and temperature conditions. The same conditions when growing wheat plants need it most. ESN works more efficiently and smarter than any other nitrogen fertilizer you've used before. It saves time and money while increasing your yields.

How's that for a change?

Learn how ESN Smart Nitrogen can improve your winter wheat. **Visit www.agrium.com.**

A **smarter** source of nitrogen. A **smarter** way to grow wheat.



Rye Research and Development Current Issues

Dr. Grant McLeod, AAFC, Swift Current, Saskatchewan

Rye breeding and development is a relatively small program in AAFC located at Swift Current, SK, with one half time breeder and one technical assistant. Rye is grown on about 200,000 ha in Canada and 85% is in the Prairies. Breeding efforts on rye have focused mainly on the semi dwarf characteristic as an agronomic improvement and on the addition of the white grain, strong gluten and reduced pentosan traits that will make rye more marketable as a food and feed grain.

Semi dwarf rye: Two cultivars, AC Rifle and AC Remington have been developed. The dwarfing source is dominant and thus the cultivars are very difficult to maintain. Recently we have identified two additional sources of the semi dwarf characteristic and have made test crosses to determine the inheritance with the hope that they are recessive inheritance types and thus easier to stabilize in a cultivar. We still think that this is a good direction for rye in terms of agronomy of the crop because it allows for improved grain yields and quality by several agronomic practices like direct harvesting because of reduced shattering. Thus this trait could improve both yield and quality (Hagberg Falling Number).

White grain rye: The objective is to develop a white grain winter rye. This is aimed at the North American market with the idea of making rye more appealing as a food product. There are reasons that we might want to include a bit more rye in our diet and North America in particular could be a better place health wise for it. When we take off the blue colour, rye appears to segregate for red and white in a similar fashion to wheat. We selected a white population from a white spring rye/ Gazelle hybrid as a way to get faster turnover of generations and have some material for evaluation. We now have a white winter population, developed from a hybrid of our white spring population/Dakota, under evaluation for agronomic traits and nutritional acceptability. Trials will include milling and baking, taste panel, grain yield and agronomic comparisons. Preliminary trials with the white spring rye indicated that it was a bit lower yielding, and had a less stringent taste than normal rye.

Reduced pentosan rye: The low feed quality of rye for some classes of animals is due to the soluble pentosan component of the fibre. This fibre has a high viscosity which can be due to either or both quantity and molecular weight. We have used extract viscosity as an indirect selection technique, selecting for low extract viscosity. We can screen

many more samples indirectly than we can by determining the actual soluble pentosan content and the values integrate both the quantity and molecular weight. Low and high viscosity selections were increased and fed to swine and broilers. Swine showed no response to low viscosity rye or to enzyme supplementation. Broilers showed some positive response to both low viscosity rye and enzyme supplementation. Our conclusion was that rye is undervalued in the marketplace as a diet ingredient for swine. Additionally, improved marketing arrangements should be developed to facilitate the movement of rye into the feed industry and the additional applied feeding research should be done with the results transferred to industry, in order to convince feeders of the value of rye as a feed grain. Other attributes of rye grain like the high phytase activity and the potential reduction of P excretion in swine manure should be investigated.

Rye as a Functional Food: Cereal β -glucans have clinically proven health benefits and this important polysaccharide is present in rye grain. Both the total amount and molecular weight are important to β -glucan functionality and physiological effects. We evaluated seven Canadian rye varieties, grown in three years at four locations in Western Canada, for β -glucan content and molecular weight. We determined the effect of genotype, location and harvest year on the content and molecular weight of β -glucan. Canadian rye whole meal contains a potentially functional amount of high molecular weight β -glucan. β -glucan content in all rye whole meals ranged from 2.2 to 3.1%. The results indicated a significant influence of genotype, location and harvest year ($P= 0.001$) on the content of β -glucan, but did not seem to have effect on the molecular weight of β -glucan in the rye whole meal extract. Among all variables, rye genotype had the most contribution to the total variation in β -glucan content, except for one location. This would indicate that there is potential to select for increased amounts of β -glucan. β -glucan content was related to weather parameters like temperature and precipitation. β -glucan content was most strongly correlated with the number of growing degree days accumulated during June and July, $r=-0.51$ and with precipitation received during the 5 weeks before harvest, $r=0.35$. This would indicate that β -glucan content can be expected to be greater in cooler wetter environments. Further investigations with rye should consider such functional components as β -glucan and pentosan as potential enhancements to our diets.

Phosphate Fertility in Winter Wheat

Good phosphate fertility is essential to achieve quick emergence and vigorous early growth to build a uniform stand with a well developed crown tissue to better survive the winter. Phosphate also supplies your crop with energy to help fight off disease. But a large percentage of applied phosphate fertilizer gets tied up or bound in unavailable forms, resulting in large amounts of phosphate in the soil which is unavailable for the crop to use.

Enhance phosphate fertility with JumpStart®

JumpStart helps crops make better use of phosphate. JumpStart can be used in different ways depending on levels of available phosphate. In soils high in available phosphate, JumpStart can be used to access phosphate tied-up in the soil without the need for additional phosphate fertilizer. There is a cost savings to this approach especially considering the current high price of phosphate fertilizer. When time is tight during seeding there is the convenience of not having to haul fertilizer to the field.

In soils medium in available phosphate you may be able to reduce the amount of phosphate fertilizer you apply while improving yield potential. For soils low in available phosphate, apply JumpStart in addition to your normal application rate of phosphate fertilizer.

JumpStart, the phosphate inoculant, contains the naturally occurring soil fungus *Penicillium bilaii*. It colonizes root systems and makes bound mineral forms of phosphate immediately available for crop use which enhances phosphate fertility from both fertilizer and soil phosphate.

2005 JumpStart winter wheat trials

Research has shown that JumpStart increases seedling growth by 7% (3 to 4 weeks after emergence) and increases root growth by 30% over more phosphate fertilizer. These growth advantages translate into yield advantages.

The results from 10 split-field trials on winter wheat show an average yield increase of 6% and an **average net return of \$14.58/acre** when using JumpStart¹. The amount of phosphate applied to both sides was the same in all trials listed below.

Name	Town	Prov./ State	Yield (bu/ac) No JumpStart	Yield (bu/ac) With JumpStart	Bu/ac Yield Increase	% Yield Increase
Murray Vincent	Belgrave	ON	68.1	72.2	4.2	106%
Swiss Valley Farms	Brussels	ON	62.0	66.4	4.4	107%
Scott Cooper	Kippen	ON	80.0	83.0	3.0	104%
Lawrence Helmuth	Moorefield	ON	68.0	76.7	8.6	113%
Jeff Gaab	Weyburn	SK	22.7	21.4	1.3	94%
Mike Zook	Beach	ND	39.5	38.7	-0.8	98%
Mike Hilgers	Crary	ND	53.6	62.9	9.3	117%
Steve Tronson	Doyon	ND	19.5	31.7	12.3	162%*
Rick Morquart	Lakota	ND	61.3	65.9	4.6	107%
Gillett Bros	Tolna	ND	48.4	54.3	5.8	112%
Average Yield:			56.0	60.2	4.2	106%

*Trial results were removed when calculating the average yield increase and net return so as to not overly affect the calculations of the average yield response. All trials listed were harvested in 2005.

JumpStart is a fertility efficiency tool that provides an economic return from both yield and convenience. If you would like more information or are interested in conducting a JumpStart trial on winter wheat, please contact Philom Bios at 1-888-744-5662.

¹Based on the 2007 SRP for JumpStart, 5 year average CWB payments for #1 CWRW of \$4.91/bu and a seeding rate of 2 bu/ac.

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