

WHEAT PERFORMANCE IN ILLINOIS TRIALS - 2011

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Emerson D. Nafziger, Darin K. Joos, Ralph W. Esgar, and Brian R. Henry
Department of Crop Sciences, University of Illinois, Urbana

The 2011 wheat season in Illinois was much better than the 2010 season, with good (but not record) yields and very good grain quality. Planted acres rebounded nicely in 2011, going from 330,000 acres in 2010 to 760,000 acres in 2011. Yields in 2011 were higher than those in 2010 in every crop reporting district except the southeast, and ranged from 76 bushels in the northeast to 50 bushels in the southeast. The preliminary state yield estimate for 2011 is 61 bushels per acre, up from only 56 bushels in 2010. The 2011 yield is about 1.5 bushels more than the average of the previous decade, and has been exceeded in Illinois only three times; the highest state yield to date is 67 bushels, in 2006.

The dry fall in 2010 allowed early harvest of the summer crops and the wheat crop to be planted on time, but soils were dry enough to slow emergence in some areas, resulting in late and uneven emergence in some fields. The winter was favorable for keeping wheat alive, with very few periods of warm weather that made the crop break dormancy before returning to cold. Greenup and early growth in the spring were typical, but wet and cool weather beginning in April and lasting into May provided less than excellent growing conditions. May weather warmed eventually, and heading/flowering occurred close to its normal time. Rainfall was abundant in May, but fortunately there was a period of dry weather when much of the crop was flowering, and Fusarium head scab did not develop to become a large problem in most areas in 2011. The weather turned hot in early June, and harvest was delayed some by rainfall in mid-June. Test weights were generally high, and doublecrop soybeans generally got off to a good start.

The 2011 wheat variety trials were planted on time, under reasonably good planting conditions. Dry soils affected the crop to some extent, and tillering was not as extensive by spring 2011 as would have been ideal. Heavy rain and storms before harvest knocked some grain out of the heads at Brownstown and at the Orr Center, and reduced yield at both locations, perhaps more in early compared to later varieties. But all data were usable, and yields were good at all locations.

Plots in these trials were seeded at the rate of 36 seeds per square foot, and consisted of six, 7.5-inch rows trimmed to about 17 feet long before harvest. There were three replications. Yields were corrected to 13.5% moisture. The final table of the report includes Fusarium head scab ratings from Dr. Fred Kolb's misted, inoculated scab trial at Urbana. Seed companies were allowed to include entries treated with seed-applied insecticide, with the insecticide treatment identified by product name. We also entered both treated and untreated seed of several varieties at each location as a test of yield response to this input. Averages from those comparisons were used to generate the statement at the bottom of each table.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Cooperators</u>	<u>Soil type</u>	<u>Planted</u>	<u>N fertilizer</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
Dixon Springs	Steve Ebelhar Carl Hart, Jr.	Grantsburg silt loam	Oct. 12	30 Fall 120 Spring	June 16
Belleville	Ron Krausz	Ebbert silt loam	Oct. 12	30 Fall 85 Spring	June 24
Brownstown	Lindell Deal	Cisne silt loam	Oct. 5	30 Fall 90 Spring	June 24
Orr Center	Mike Vose	Clarksdale silt loam	Oct. 3	45 Fall 80 Spring	June 29
Urbana	Bob Dunker Mike Kleiss	Flanagan silt loam	Oct. 1	40 Fall 40 Spring	June 28
DeKalb	Lyle Paul Dave Lindgren	Drummer silty clay loam	Sept. 27	30 Fall 40 Spring	July 14

Participating companies are listed on Page 2, regional data in Tables 1 and 2, individual location data in Tables 3 to 8, wheat variety characteristics in Table 9, and the Fusarium head scab ratings in Table 10.

Participating Companies

We thank these companies for their support of this program in 2011.

AgriMAXX Wheat Co
7167 Highbanks Rd
Mascoutah, IL 62258
618-566-7022

Excel Brand Seed
PO Box 320
Camp Point, IL 62320
(800) 593-7708

Monier Seed + Service
846 Yankee Lane
Sparland, IL 61565
(309) 469-2511

Agrinetics, Inc.
8664 Howison
Hinkley, IL 60520
(630) 417-4265

Green Valley Seed, LLC
P O Box 35
Kahoka, MO 63445
(660) 727-3341

MWS Seeds, LLC
2737 N 700 E Rd
Ashkum, IL 60911
(815) 698-2204

Beck's Hybrids
6767 E 276th St
Atlanta, IN 46031
(317) 984-3508

GROWMARK, Inc.
1701 Towanda Ave., PO 2500
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 557-6399

Pioneer Hi-Bred International
421 Detroit Drive
Bloomington, IL 61704
(800) 950-3489

BioTown Seeds
373N Diener Rd
Reynolds, IN 47980
(219) 984-5247

Hartke Seed Farms
22679 Sunset Rd
Litchfield, IL 62059
(217) 324-2680

Pro Seed Genetics
N 4297 City Hwy E
Kewaunee, WI 54216
(920) 988-2824

Brownstown Ag Center
622 S Brownstown Rd
Brownstown, IL 62418
(618) 427-3242

Hoffman Seed House
PO Box 66, 200 E 4th St
Hoffman, IL 62250
(618) 495-2617

Sunstar Hybrids
14993 State Road 17
Culver, IN 46511-9642
(574) 842-2775

Cappel Certified Seed
12629 HWY 38 W
Rochelle, IL 61068
(815) 562-8978

John Sedlacek
633 Cedar Road
St Jacob, IL 62281
(618) 644-4789

Steyer Seeds
6154 N Co Rd 33
Tiffin, OH 44883
(800) 231-4274

Delta Grow Seed
220 NW 2nd
England, AR 72046
(800) 530-7933

Kitchen Seed Company
PO Box 286
Arthur, IL 61911
(217) 543-3476

Synergy Seeds, Inc.
PO Box 508
Herscher, IL 60941
(815) 426-9885

DeRaedt Seed Corp.
10 N 971 Tower Road
Hampshire, IL 60140
(847) 514-8844

Lewis Hybrids, Inc
530 West Maple Ave.
Ursa, IL 62376
(217) 964-2131

Syngenta
520 E 1050 S
Brookston, IN 47923
(765) 563-3111

Direct Enterprises
PO Box 978
Westfield, IN 46074
(888) 895-7333

Miles Seed
PO Box 22879
Owensboro, KY 42304
(270) 926-2420

Virginia Crop Improvement
9225 Atlee Branch Lane
Mechanicsville, VA 23116
(804) 746-4884

Dyna-Gro Seed
6221 Riverside Drive, Suite 1
Dublin, OH 43017
(614) 761-4110, ext 3

Miller Bros. Farm & Fertilizer
2001 Niemannsville Trail
Walshville, IL 62091
(217) 456-9311