

WHEAT PERFORMANCE IN ILLINOIS TRIALS - 2020
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Darin K. Joos and Jessica Rutkoski
Department of Crop Sciences, University of Illinois, Urbana

The 2019-20 wheat growing season in Illinois mostly favorable until freezing temperatures occurred in early May. The amount of freeze damage varied widely across the state and even within counties. Some fields were heavily affected while others were not. The growth stage at the time of the freeze largely determined how much damage occurred. Wheat spikes that experienced the freeze around heading and anthesis tended to be more heavily affected; however, the freeze could have affected plants even outside of these growth stages. This year, the early heading varieties were more likely to experience severe frost damage compared to varieties that headed later. We experienced severe frost damage at our Belleville trial location which caused high levels of experimental error at this location. The Belleville location was therefore excluded from our analyses this year.

After early May, the season was largely uneventful. The risk of Scab infection was predicted to be low for most parts of the state, except for the southernmost region near the border of Kentucky. In spite of these predictions, plenty of Scab infection could be observed on research plots in Urbana. Scab symptoms could even be observed research plots that were sprayed with fungicide at anthesis. However, as expected, Scab resistant/moderately resistant varieties experienced lower levels disease compared with Scab susceptible varieties. We continue to recommend varieties that are at least moderately resistant to Scab to reduce the risk of producing grain with unacceptable levels of Vomitoxin. Although no variety is immune to Scab, there are now excellent Scab resistant varieties to choose from. Slow but steady improvements in Scab resistance, in combination with high yield, continue to be made.

After anthesis, a period of hot, dry weather accelerated the wheat crop. As a result, some fields were harvested slightly earlier than usual. In some parts of the state, rain and severe weather occurred right around harvest which could have had a negative impact on test weights.

In all our wheat variety trial, plots were seeded at the rate of 36 seeds per square foot, and consisted of six, 7.5-inch rows trimmed to about 16 feet before harvest. Yields were corrected to 13.5% moisture. Entries treated with seed-applied insecticide have insecticide treatment identified by the product trade name in the tables.

Location	Cooperator	Soil type	Planting date	N fertilizer	Harvest date
Elkville	Trent Funk	Hurst silt loam	Oct. 8	30 Fall 110 Spring	June 19
Belleville	Dane Hunter	Ebbert silt loam	Oct. 8	30 Fall 85 Spring	June 26
St Peter	Russ Schwarm	Hoyleton silt loam	Oct. 18	0 Fall 120 Spring	June 26
Perry/Orr Center	Luke Merritt	Clarksdale silt loam	Oct. 14	30 Fall 80 Spring	June 29
Urbana	Nick Eisenmenger	Flanagan silt loam	Sept. 27	30 Fall 40 Spring	July 6
Hampshire	Dezeri DeRaedt	Elburn silt loam	Sept. 24	30 Fall 80 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 2020.

AgriMAXX Wheat Co
7167 Highbanks Rd
Mascoutah, IL 62258
(855) 629-9432

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

KWS Cereals
4101 Colleen Dr
Champaign, IL 618/22
217-800-1008

AgriPro
200 E 4th St
Hoffman, IL 62250
(618) 495-2617

Green Valley Seed
121 West College St
Kahoka, MO 63445
(800) 748-7943

Limagrain Cereal Seeds
2040 SE Frontage Rd
Ft. Collins, CO 80525
(970) 498-2200

Albert Lea Seed
1414 West Main Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007
(800) 352-5247

GO Wheat
1530 HWY 79 South
Stuttgart, AR 72160
(800) 264-4433

Monier Seed & Service
846 Yankee Lane
Sparland, IL 61565
(309) 238-1227

BioTown Seeds
Box 299
Reynolds, IN 47980
(219) 984-6038

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

Pioneer - Corteva
7100 NW 62nd Ave.
Johnston, IA 50131
(800) 247-6803

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

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

Pro Harvest Seeds
2737 N 700 E Road
Ashkum, IL 60911
(866) 807-7015

Dyna-Gro Seed
200 W 2nd St.
Flora, IL 44818
(618) 838-5024

Kratz Farms LLC
4380 Sherman Road
Slinger, WI 53086
(262) 644-9426

UniSouth Genetics, Inc.
3205C HWY 46 S
Dickson, TN 37055
(615) 515-3133