

WHEAT PERFORMANCE IN ILLINOIS TRIALS - 2012

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The 2011-12 wheat season was a good one in Illinois, with above-average yields and outstanding grain quality in most areas of Illinois. Planted acres dropped by 16%, from 765,000 acres in 2011 to 640,000 acres in 2012, but yields increased from 61 to 64 bushels per acre, and production dropped by only 12 percent. The 2012 yield is tied for the third-highest on record, and is about 5 bushels per acre above the average of the past decade.

The dry fall in 2011 allowed early harvest of the summer crops and the wheat crop to be planted on time. Soils were somewhat dry at planting but stands were generally good, and there was good rainfall after planting to produce good growth before dormancy. The winter of 2011-12 was relatively dry and warm, and there was virtually no damage from standing water or from cold temperatures. The crop greened up very early and grew rapidly in March, with a very early start to heading: 8 percent of the crop was headed by April 8, and 80 percent was headed by April 30, compared to 6 percent normally headed by the end of April. Temperatures over much of the state dropped below 32 degrees on April 11 and 12, causing some freeze injury. The weather remained drier than normal throughout the spring, including during flowering. As a result, there was almost no Fusarium head scab in Illinois in 2012. Warm, dry weather continued into June, and the 2012 crop was harvested earlier than ever before: 6 percent of the crop was harvested by June 3 and 96 percent by July 1. Though planting of doublecrop soybeans was much earlier than normal, dry soil conditions delayed or prevented emergence in many fields.

The 2012 wheat variety trials were planted on time, under good soil conditions. The only factors that negatively affected yields were the below-freezing temperatures the second week of April, when much of the crop was either headed or in boot, and stripe rust in some areas. We discarded some data at Urbana from early varieties, which appeared to have suffered more damage from the frost than most of the other entries. Even without much visible damage in other locations, these early varieties tended to yield less than expected, probably due to their early growth and more advanced stage when the frost occurred. Yields were generally 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	Grantsburg silt loam	Oct. 17	30 Fall 120 Spring	June 5
Belleville	Ron Krausz	Ebbert silt loam	Oct. 14	30 Fall 85 Spring	June 6
Brownstown	Lindell Deal	Cisne silt loam	Oct. 5	0 Fall 120 Spring	June 8
Orr Center	Mike Vose	Clarksdale silt loam	Oct. 3	45 Fall 80 Spring	June 13
Urbana	Bob Dunker Jeff Warren	Flanagan silt loam	Oct. 4	40 Fall 40 Spring	June 15
DeKalb	Dave Lindgren	Drummer silty clay loam	Sept. 24	30 Fall 40 Spring	June 27

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 2012.

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

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

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

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

Pro Harvest Seeds, Inc.
2737 N 700 E Rd
Ashkum, IL 60911
(815) 698-2204

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

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

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

BioTown Seeds
Box 299
Reynolds, IN 47980
(219) 984-5247

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

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

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

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

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

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

Limagrain Cereal Seeds LLC
257 East Hail Street
Bushnell, IL 61422
(309) 772-2070

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

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

Merschman Seeds, Inc
103 Ave D, PO Box 67
West Point, IA 52656
(800) 848-7333

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

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

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

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

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

Westbred
6025 W 3005
Lafayette, IN 47909
(765) 572-2627