

**WHEAT PERFORMANCE IN ILLINOIS TRIALS - 2015**  
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The 2014-15 wheat season was a mixed one in Illinois, with good yields but with grain quality problems following wet weather in the spring. Acres planted for grain dropped from 750,000 in 2013-14 to 590,000 in 2014-15. The 2015 yield is currently estimated at 66 bushels per acre, a bushel less than in 2014. This is a high yield by historical standards.

Harvest of the outstanding 2014 corn and soybean crops was delayed by wet weather, putting wheat planting progress well behind normal, especially in the major wheat-growing area of southwestern Illinois, and including the three southern Illinois trials. Stands ranged from poor to good, and fall growth was limited due to cool, wet weather in October and November. Winter weather was more or less typical, but the crop came out of dormancy in the spring with below-average tiller numbers and, in some fields, poor stands.

Conditions in March and April were cool and relatively dry, so tiller numbers recovered along with yield potential. But measurable rainfall on about half of the days in May made conditions for Fusarium head blight (scab) development nearly ideal in most areas of the state. It rained even more in June, with the monthly rainfall total of more than 9 inches setting a new Illinois record for June. This delayed harvest by days or weeks in most fields. Cycles of wetting and drying of the grain before harvest dropped test weights, sprouting damage was widespread, and vomitoxin (DON) levels were high in some grain. Dockages exceeded the market price of wheat in some cases, and many elevators had to refuse wheat.

The 2014-15 wheat variety trials were planted on time in the northern three locations, but 2 to 3 weeks late in southern Illinois. The late plantings were into marginal soil conditions, and planting was followed by even more rain. Most locations escaped the worst of the disease and harvest delays, however, to produce good or excellent yields. Many of the plots at Brownstown were damaged by standing water, and yields from that location are not reported here.

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 16 feet long before harvest. There were three replications. Yields were corrected to 13.5% moisture. Entries treated with seed-applied insecticide have insecticide treatment identified by product trade name.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Cooperators</u>	<u>Soil type</u>	<u>Planted</u>	<u>N fertilizer</u>	<u>Harvest</u>
Mulkeytown	Trent Funk	Hoyleton silt loam	Oct. 21	30 Fall 120 Spring	June 25
Belleville	Ron Krausz	Ebbert silt loam	Oct. 21	30 Fall 85 Spring	June 25
Brownstown	Lindell Deal	Cisne silt loam	Oct. 27	30 Fall 100 Spring	June 30
Orr Center	Mike Vose	Clarksdale silt loam	Sept. 30	30 Fall 80 Spring	July 6
Urbana	Bob Dunker Jeff Warren	Flanagan silt loam	Sept. 29	40 Fall 40 Spring	July 1
DeKalb	Greg Steckel Dave Lindgren	Elpaso silty clay loam	Sept. 25	30 Fall 40 Spring	July 15

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 2015.

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

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

Baird Seed Farms  
1122 Knox Hwy 18  
Williamsville, IL 61489  
(309) 639-2248

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

Steyer Seeds  
PO BOX 209  
Old Fort, OH 44861  
(800) 231-4274

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

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

Stone Seed Group  
5965 W State Route 97  
Pleasant Plains, IL  
217-546-8006

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

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

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

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

Syngenta  
2426 Webster Rd  
Monroeville, IN 46773  
(765) 412-5420

DuPont Pioneer  
421 Detroit Drive  
Bloomington, IL 61704  
(800) 950-3489

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

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

Dyna-Gro Seed  
2660 Orr Rd.  
Bloomville, Ohio 44818  
419-310-6370

Martin Seeds, Inc.  
10045W Second  
Williamsport, IN 47993  
(765) 986-2030

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

Equity Seed  
PO Box 978  
Westfield, IN 46074  
(888) 898-7333

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

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

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

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

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