

PUBLICATIONS

1996

FIELD DAY REPORT - 1996

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH and EXTENSION CENTER at OVERTON

**Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
Texas Agricultural Extension Service**

Overton, Texas

April 18, 1996

Research Center Technical Report 96-1

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WHEAT GRAIN VARIETY TESTS AT DEKALB FOR 1994-95

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Background. Wheat grain variety trials have been planted near DeKalb, Texas for several years. These trials are planted to determine grain yield potential, adaptation, winter hardiness, and disease resistance of released varieties as well as advanced experimental soft red winter wheat lines in the Red River flood plain in Northeast Texas. A significant acreage of soft red winter wheat is grown in this area and therefore it is an excellent test site. Wheat tests were planted on prepared seedbeds. The soil in 1994-95 was a sandy clay loam. Plots have 7 rows with 6 inch row spacing and are 10 ft in length. The fertilizer applied, planting and harvest dates are on table 1. The test followed a corn crop and no fertilizer was applied preplant. Ammonium nitrate at 60 lb N/ac was top-dressed on 10 March 1995. Weeds were controlled by post-emergence application of Hoelon at 1.5 qt/ac. Weedmaster was applied at 0.5 qt/ac on 3 February to control broadleaf weeds.

Research Findings. The 1994-95 growing season was near normal in precipitation in the fall and winter, however, some late season rains delayed harvest in June. Temperatures were above normal throughout most of the growing season. Grain yields were near normal for northeast Texas (Table 1). The higher yielding varieties were Pioneer 2580, Pioneer 2571, Pioneer 2684, and FLA 302. Highest yielding experimentals were TX91D7001 (62 bu/ac) followed by FL 85238-G585. These one year yields were good for East Texas, but wheat yields have been very good for the past three years. The reason for the good yields was that a fairly dry spring reduced disease buildup of leaf rust and septoria diseases and allowed for a long grain filling period. Test weight of number 1 wheat is 60 lb/bu, however, no entries met this standard. The reason for this may have been several heavy rains in early June after grain had matured. This delayed harvest and whenever this occurs on standing grain, test weights are reduced. Leaf rust disease levels were very low in this test. Neither powdery mildew nor septoria glume blotch was observed in 1995. Lodging was observed on a few lines in this test and was probably due to the late harvest and poor stalk strength of those entries.

Application. These data should be useful in determining which varieties have best potential for grain yield in northeast Texas. Wheat grain yields were near average in 1995 and should be a good indication of yield potential in the DeKalb area. These data are not a good indication of disease resistance since disease severity levels were very low. Other wheat grain yield data from variety tests at Mt. Pleasant and Overton for prior years are presented elsewhere in this field day report.

Table 1. Uniform Soft Winter Wheat Variety Test, DeKalb, TX 1994-1995.

Variety	Yield bu/ac	Test Weight lbs/bu	Height in	Heading Date	% Lodging	Leaf Rust (0-9)	Stripe Rust (0-9)
TX91D7001	61.6	54	35	4-10	0	0	0
Pioneer 2580	60.3	54	34	4-21	0	0	0
Pioneer 2571	58.4	54	35	4-21	0	0	0
Pioneer 2684	57.2	57	33	4-21	2	0	0
FLA 302	56.4	55	37	4-21	0	1	0
FL 85238-G585	55.1	56	38	4-21	0	0	0
TX87-78-1	55.0	55	36	-- ^a	0	0	0
Pioneer 2548	55.0	53	33	4-21	0	0	0
TX91D7012	54.4	53	34	-- ^a	0	0	0
TX91D6999	52.9	55	35	4-8	5	0	0
FLA 304	51.6	52	36	4-9	0	0	0
TX92D7741	51.5	53	33	-- ^a	20	0	0
TX82-11	50.9	49	35	-- ^a	80	0	0
TX86-6	49.6	52	35	-- ^a	0	0	0
Mallard	49.1	53	34	-- ^a	0	0	0
91D-2308	48.8	53	36	4-7	0	0	1
Pioneer 2566	48.8	51	35	4-21	0	0	0
Coker 9835	48.3	52	33	4-8	0	0	1
Coker 9105	46.6	51	36	4-9	0	0	6
TX86-51-2	46.0	50	36	-- ^a	0	0	0
Coker 9904	46.0	50	39	-- ^a	0	0	4
Coker 9543	45.7	54	32	4-21	0	0	0
TX89D2142	45.0	51	35	-- ^a	0	0	0
TX91D7013	45.0	53	33	4-8	5	0	0
Shiloh	44.8	53	34	-- ^a	0	0	0
Coker 762	44.2	50	33	4-21	20	0	0
Jackson	44.1	55	39	-- ^a	2	0	0
Sawyer	43.2	50	38	-- ^a	10	0	0
TX92D7374	43.1	50	40	-- ^a	0	0	0
Coker 9803	41.6	55	36	4-21	0	0	0
Coker 68-15	40.6	51	32	4-21	0	0	0
Hazen	40.3	54	33	-- ^a	0	0	0
Coker 9134	40.0	54	36	4-21	0	0	0
Coker 9024	39.6	51	41	4-21	0	0	1
TX85-119	39.1	54	36	-- ^a	5	0	0
Wakefield	38.6	53	39	-- ^a	0	0	0
FFR 525	36.1	55	39	-- ^a	10	0	0
Abe	33.6	54	40	-- ^a	5	0	0
Madison	32.7	53	39	4-8	0	0	0
Savannah	32.6	52	33	4-6	0	0	0
Hickory	30.7	--	39	4-8	0	0	1
Cardinal	27.6	53	41	4-10	0	0	0
Mean	46.0	53	36	--	4	1	1
LSD	14.0	--	--	--	--	--	--
CV	18.8	--	--	--	--	--	--

Planting date November 2, 1994. Harvest date June 13, 1995. Fertilizer application rate: Topdressed with 52 lb N, 52 lb P₂O₅, and 52 lb of K₂O/ac on February 3, 1995. This test was topdressed again with 60 lb N on March 10, 1995. Herbicide application rate: Hoelon was applied at 1.5 qt per acre and Weedmaster was applied at 0.5 qt per acre on February 3, 1995. Disease ratings were on a scale of 0-9, where 0 = no disease and 9 = dead plants.

^aHeading date was between April 10 and April 21.