

WINTER CEREALS

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WINTER CEREALS

SASKATCHEWAN COMMISSION ENTERS INTO FIRST RESEARCH TRIAL AT CANORA SASKATCHEWAN

The primary reason why farmers banded together to create the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission was to increase the production of winter cereals through encouraging research into different aspects of winter cereals production.

This summer the commission entered into our first long term research funding project. The SWCDC realizes that we are the custodian of your money and that we must ensure that projects funded either wholly or in part by the commission will benefit Saskatchewan farmers.

The formal name given to the project is "Optimizing seed quality and net returns through enhanced N management strategies for milling and general purpose winter wheat production in the Canadian prairies". This project is being spearheaded by Dr. Brian Beres who works out of the Lethbridge Alberta Agriculture and Agri Food Research Centre.

Dr. Beres will co-ordinate research trials that will be conducted at multiple sites across the Canadian prairies including 1) Lethbridge Research Centre, 2) Lacombe Research Centre, 3) Scott Research Farm, 4) Brandon Research Centre and the East Central Research Foundation facilities in Canora, Saskatchewan.

The SWCDC is proud to be collaborating with several other organizations that are dedicated to increasing winter cereal production. These organizations include 1) Duck's Unlimited, 2) Alberta Winter Wheat Producer's Commission, 3) Agrium, 4) Agrotain International and 5) The Canadian Wheat Board.

Funding from the SWCDC will be used to specifically cover the cost of research trials conducted at the East Central Research Foundation's excellent facilities located at Canora, Saskatchewan. By concentrating our funding in Saskatchewan we will ensure that the results of this work are relevant to our members.

The basic premise for the project is outlined by Dr. Beres as follows: The Canadian Wheat Board Select program required a minimum standard for winter wheat protein content of 11.5%. Recent work at Lacombe and Lethbridge and anecdotal reports from industry indicates that this standard is difficult to meet. The Wheat Board has responded by lowering the minimum protein level to 11% in an effort to improve the consistent supply of winter wheat with this quality profile. The emergence of the ethanol feedstock market may negatively impact the select program if producers feel there is less risk and increased profitability in targeting starch production over protein production. New novel forms such as polymer coated urea ESN® and Nitrogain® have yet to be tested in a winter wheat cropping

systems across diverse prairie environments.

Other forms such as super granulated urea (Super U®) are not yet available for commercial use in Canada and the efficacy of this product for winter wheat is unknown. Therefore, it is essential that a sustainable N management package is produced that optimizes protein or starch performance using both novel and conventional forms of N fertilizer.

The main objectives of the research have been distilled down to three points by Dr. Beres. 1) Determine the fertilizer management practices that improve protein content and increase the frequency of achieving the Select grade of high yielding winter wheat. 2) Develop N management practices that optimize yield and starch characteristics in soft white winter wheat for use as an ethanol feedstock. 3) Quantify the net return for each management practice and for starch vs. protein production so producers can fully assess which market best suits their farm business plan.

Dr. Beres reminds us that nitrogen is the nutrient most commonly limiting to crop production in annual cropping systems, so the major focus of this study is on N management. Since the removal of ammonium nitrate as a fertilizer material there are significant issues to providing adequate nitrogen fertility due to the potential for losses from spring and fall applications. The influence of N management on both milling and soft white varieties will be studied so that best management practices are developed for each class. This will enable an accurate economic assessment of each production system.

Nutrient inputs are a major cost of production for farmers, but provide economic benefits in enhanced yield and improved crop quality if effectively used. This project will provide information that will increase the efficiency of nutrient management practices to improve the economic benefits to Canadian producers.

Beyond this, nutrient management will directly influence the chemical composition of crops, including the proportion of protein or carbohydrate in the seed (affecting the output of the conversion process for ethanol production). Therefore, nutrient management can influence not only the profitability for the farmer, but by influencing the nutritional and processing quality of the crop can affect the economic benefit throughout the value chain. Economic, environmental and food quality effects of nutrients are tightly linked and cannot be evaluated in isolation. Therefore, this project will provide information on all these aspects of integrated nutrient management.

Nutrient management has a large effect on the environmental impact of Canadian agriculture. On-farm fertilizer use represents over 60% of total

energy input of a typical grain-oilseed production system involving continuous cropping. The majority of this energy usage is in the form of nitrogen fertilizer. Effective nutrient management will increase biomass production while enhancing carbon sequestration, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and reducing the risk of nutrient mining. In contrast, excess of poorly synchronized or improperly applied nitrogen will increase the risk of nitrous oxide and ammonia emission, and nitrate leaching to water. Production and transportation of N fertilizer is highly energy intensive, so reducing inputs of inorganic N will reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas production. This study will provide information to develop nutrient management strategies to improve nutrient use efficiency and reduce negative environmental impacts of nitrogen application to winter wheat.

The SWCDC has agreed to finance three years worth of this critical research project with an option for a fourth year if the data yields significant data requiring follow-up. More information on this project will be presented at the Winter Cereals development Commission's Annual General meeting during Crop Production week in Saskatoon next January.



The Board of the Saskatchewan Commission, Winter Cereals Canada and Winter Cereals Manitoba tour research plots at AAFC Indian Head Research Centre. See page two for details of the first joint meeting of the three associations.



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WINTER WHEAT ORGANIZATIONS HOLD JOINT MEETING AT INDIAN HEAD

There is an old saying that goes "United we stand, Divided we fall". When it comes to improving the environment for winter cereals production on the Canadian prairies three prominent organizations have banded together to ensure that failure will not be an option. It is critical that organizations with like goals work together to ensure that resources are maximized and producers have access to the latest technologies and grain varieties.

With this goal in mind the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission hosted the first joint meeting of the Commission, Winter Cereals Canada Inc. and the newly designated Manitoba producer representative association, Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc.

The meeting took place at the Indian Head AAFC research centre at the invitation of Dr. Guy Lafode. The highlight of the meeting was a plot tour conducted by Dr. Lafond with the assistance of Dr. Byron Irvine from AAFC Brandon. Participants were able to view various types of trials dealing with fertilizer application and were introduced to computer controlled variable rate fertilization via the Green Seeker (NTech Industries) optical sensing and application system.

The business portion of the meeting concentrated on finding different ways that the three organizations could work together and how to bring other groups with common goals together on a regular basis to discuss matters of common interest. It was agreed that over time it would be beneficial for groups like the Western Grains Research Foundation, Ducks Unlimited and the Alberta Winter Wheat Producers Association to join in our discussions.

The group also discussed how Winter Cereals Canada Inc. can best serve producers now that all three prairie provinces have organizations in place that officially represent winter wheat growers. This will be an important topic of discussion at the 2009 annual general meeting of Winter Cereals Canada in Regina next spring.

It was generally agreed that the two funding organizations (Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission and Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc.) would co-ordinate their funding of research projects to prevent needless overlap and get producers a bigger bang for their bucks. Winter Cereals Canada Inc. will act as the daily operations centre for both groups and act as a common access point for producers, government and research.

IMPORTANT WEBSITES FOR WINTER CEREALS GROWERS

www.wintercerealscanada.org
www.wintercereals.ca
www.cwb.ca
www.grainscanada.gc.ca
www.cigi.ca

Advertise in the Winter Cereals Grower

Winter Cereals Canada invites interested individuals and companies to advertise in the *Winter Cereals Grower*.

8 ½ x 11	\$500.00
6 ¼ x 8 ¼.....	\$350.00
4 ¼ x 5 ½.....	\$275.00
2 ½ x 2 ¾.....	\$130.00

Multiple insertion discount 10%
GST will not be added to these prices.

All advertising must be camera ready or suitable for scanning.
Advertorial content is accepted at the standard rates.
Advertising deadlines are March 1st, June 1st and November 1st.

Material should be submitted to:

Winter Cereals Canada Inc.
P.O. Box 689, Minnedosa, MB R0J 1E0
(204) 874-2257 • jake@wintercerealscanada.org

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Box 689, Minnedosa, Mb. R0J 1E0
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e-mail: jake@wintercerealscanada.org

Editor: Jake Davidson, P.Ag., PAS

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THE BEST OFFENCE IS A STRONG DEFENCE

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THE BUTCHER REPORT

Winter is here. If you are a grain producer, thoughts turn to marketing and planning for the next crop. It is a little different from last year when most commodities had potential for a good profit. I hope you got some of those excellent prices.

The most important happening for Winter Cereals Canada this past year was the establishment of Winter Cereals Manitoba, the check-off organization for winter wheat producers in Manitoba.

The Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission has been in place for a year and a half as a check-off organization there. As well, over this past year we have been communicating with the Alberta Winter Wheat Producers Commission. I think there is a huge opportunity for the three provinces to work together, particularly in variety development.

Recently all three groups have been at the table with the Western Grains Research Foundation and by working together with that prairie wide research funding organization, we have a lot of clout. Without the restriction of KVD we can expect things to really start to happen as far winter wheat breeding is concerned.

I wish you a good winter and since it is getting closer, Merry Christmas as well.

Garth Butcher, President,
Winter Cereals Canada Inc. & Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc.

FROM THE DESK OF ROD FEDORUK

The winter cereal harvest this fall was exceptional both in yield and quality. Unfortunately, the lateness of the canola harvest this year resulted in a reduction of the number of acres seeded to winter cereals. Those acres that were seeded seem to be fairing well with our extended fall season. Markets still hold promise as there still seems to be a demand on the select side with the C.W.B. accepting 100 % of the A series contracts of winter wheat.

At this point I would like to welcome to the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Board, Wayne Barsby of Sturgis, Saskatchewan. We look forward to Wayne's input with our board. Also I would like to thank Lee Moats of Riceton, Sask. for his many years of hard work and dedication to our winter cereals board. Lee is no longer with our board and his many contributions will be missed.

As we begin our fall series of meetings, our board will be focusing on research and development projects. Presently, we have started on our first project, a fertilizer trial under the direction of Brian Beres of Lethbridge, Alberta. Brian will be updating us at our annual meeting on January 12, 2009 during Crop Production Week in Saskatoon. Our board will be actively pursuing other research projects this year, hoping to enhance the development of the winter cereal industry.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our meetings this winter. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

Rod Fedoruk, Chairman,
Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission

HEAD OFFICE YEAR END WRAPUP

2008 has been another very busy year at the WCC business office. With the Manitoba producer's referendum being held in January, the first AGM of the SWCDC being held during Crop Production Week in Saskatoon and our participation in both the Crop Production Show and Ag Days the first month of the year was packed with activities. Then to top things off WCC was invited to have a booth at the Manitoba - North Dakota Zero Tillage meetings in Brandon.

The Manitoba referendum continued into February and we were very pleased with the support received from Manitoba winter wheat producers that resulted in Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc. being declared the representative organization for producers of winter wheat in Manitoba. With the certification of WCMI all winter wheat producers in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba now have officially designated organizations that can work together on their behalf to promote winter cereals, varietal development and agronomic research. There is power in numbers and now that there are organizations in place and working together in all three provinces winter cereals producers will be heard as a unified sector of the farming economy.

The declaration of WCMI as the Manitoba representative organization set in motion an extensive process to ensure that everything would be ready for levy collection on August 1, the start of the new crop year. The first task was the development of a set of regulations that would be signed into law by an Order in Council of the Manitoba Government. Once this was completed the next task was to assemble a list of companies or individuals who purchase winter wheat for food, feed or fuel manufacturing. These contacts were contacted several times to ensure that they were aware of the new regulations and their responsibilities. While we still have a few companies who have not met the requirements set forth in the regulations, in general everything was ready to go and levy collections started on August 1, 2008. With this monumental task finished things have settled down and we are now occupied with managing the day to day operations of the three like minded organizations (WCC, WCMI, SWCDC).

On November 6, 2008 I had the pleasure of attending and speaking at the Alberta Winter Wheat Producers Commission annual general meeting in Red Deer, Alberta. This was an opportunity for our Alberta sister organization to learn how the Manitoba and Saskatchewan organizations were formed and are structured. In particular the AWWPC found our levy collection system and relationship with Levy Central (operated by the Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission) to be of significant interest as collection of the Alberta levy has been difficult. Their high level of "leakage" is significantly hindering their abilities to fund research and marketing initiatives.

Looking forward I can envision an expanded working relationship between the three bodies with levy collection abilities and Winter Cereals Canada Inc. as a potential "umbrella" organization providing a uniform voice for producers.

Jake Davidson, Executive Manager - Winter Cereals Canada Inc., Executive Director - Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission, Executive Manager - Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WINTER CEREALS CANADA INC.

MARCH 11, 2009

Travelodge Hotel Regina
4177 Albert Street South
Regina, SK, S4S 3R6 CA
306-586-3443

REGISTRATION 8:30 AM
MEETING 9:00 AM

BUSINESS MEETING 9:00AM TO 11:00 AM
INDUSTRY INFORMATION SESSIONS 11:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

Attend and learn about current winter cereals concerns from marketing and research to agronomics.

Help shape the future of Winter Cereals Canada Inc and have your say into the ongoing role of Winter Cereals Canada in the next 10 years.

REGISTRATION \$40.00 FOR MEMBERS, \$50.00 NON MEMBERS
LUNCH AND COFFEE BREAKS REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

A BLOCK OF ROOMS IS BEING HELD FOR
MEETING PARTICIPANTS

WHEN MAKING RESERVATIONS PLEASE MENTION THE WCC AGM.

TO ADVANCE REGISTER CONTACT
J. DAVIDSON, EXECUTIVE MANAGER 204-874-2257
jake@wintercerealscanada.org

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SASKATCHEWAN WINTER CEREALS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

JANUARY 12, 2009

Saskatoon Inn Hotel & Conference Centre
2002 Airport Drive
Saskatoon, SK, Canada, S7L 6M4

REGISTRATION 8:30 AM
MEETING 9:00 AM

BUSINESS MEETING 9:00AM TO 10:00 AM
INDUSTRY INFORMATION SESSIONS 10:00 AM TO 12:30 PM

Attend and learn about winter cereals in Saskatchewan

Hear about research being funded by the SWCDC to enhance the production of winter cereals and much, much more!

All producers are invited. Only producers who have paid the Winter Cereals levy since October 1, 2006 and not requested a refund are eligible to vote.

TO ADVANCE REGISTER CONTACT
J. DAVIDSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 1-866-GRAIN-11
swcdc@wintercerealscanada.org

WINTER CEREALS MANITOBA INC. is the provincially designated representative organization for producers of Winter Wheat in the province of Manitoba.

For information on W.C.M.I , levy enquiries and to become involved on the producer Board of Directors contact the W.C.M.I. office: Telephone 204-874-2330, E-mail wcmi@wintercerealscanada.org , Mail: Box 689, Minnedosa, Manitoba R0J 1E0

SWCDC 2008 Election Results

In accordance with Section 29 of the Winter Cereals Development Plan the Notice of Nomination, Notice of Call for Nominations was published in the Winter Cereals Grower, summer issue which was mailed to all registered members of the SWCDC in June of 2008. A copy of the issue may be viewed on the Winter Cereals Canada Inc. website www.wintercerealscanada.org . Follow the links to the newsletter archives and select the "Summer 2008" issue. There were two positions open on the SWCDC Board of Directors. If more than two sets of nomination papers were received an election would be conducted in November 2008.

The SWCDC regulations require that notice of nominations be made to all registered members a minimum of 30 days prior to the last date for receipt of nominations. The Winter Cereals Grower was mailed to all members between June 16, 2008 and June 20, 2008. The Notice of Nomination stated that nominations closed at 12:00 noon on October 24, 2008 and that forms were available on both the SWCDC portion of the WCC website and by contacting the SWCDC office.

Section 30 of the SWCDC regulations requires the election and nomination process to be conducted by an independent body. As was the case in 2007 Mr. John Mendrikis was hired as the returning officer. Mr. Mendrikis is the Accountant for Winter Cereals Canada Inc. Mr. Mendrikis is authorized to conduct the election and nomination process independently from the operation of the SWCDC.

At the close of the nomination period on October 24, 2008, Mr. Mendrikis notified the SWCDC office that he was in receipt of two sets of nomination papers.

On October 27, 2008, J. Davidson as Executive Director of the SWCDC attended the offices of Mr. Mendrikis with a list of SWCDC members to verify the nominations. The member list was updated, verified and supplied to the SWCDC on October 23, 2008 by Levy Central, The Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission. Mr. Mendrikis and J. Davidson reviewed the membership status of the nominees and the producers signing the nomination form. Having confirmed the eligibility of all concerned Mr. Mendrikis declared the two open positions filled by acclamation.

As a result of the election process as described above Mr. Rod Fedoruk of Kamsack, Saskatchewan and Mr. Wayne Barsby of Sturgis, Saskatchewan were declared elected to the board for a two year term.

SWCDC 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman: Mr. Rod Fedoruk Kamsack, Saskatchewan 306-542-4235	Mr. Mark Weatherald Wawota, Saskatchewan 306-739-2927
Mr. Craig McDougall Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan 306-693-3649	Mr. Dale Hicks Outlook, Saskatchewan 306-229-9517
Mr. Wayne Barsby Sturgis, Saskatchewan 306-548-4344	Head Office Address: P.O. Box 344 NW 2-30-32 W1 North Windsor Avenue Kamsack, Saskatchewan S0A 1S0

Business Office for General Enquiries, Refunds etc:
Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission
c/o Winter Cereals Canada Inc.
P.O. Box 689
Minnedosa, Manitoba R0J 1E0

1-866-GRAIN-11 (1-866-472-4611)
Executive Director: J.A. (Jake) Davidson, P.Ag. PAS



Canadian Grain Commission
Commission canadienne des grains

Is your grain variety still registered?

If you do not know if the variety of grain you are growing is registered, you may have problems when it comes time to deliver your grain. Varieties that are not registered and that are delivered into the grain handling system are only eligible for the lowest grade of the grain type. If you are using seed from a previous year, you should make sure that the variety is still registered.

Find out if your variety is registered

If you are growing crops from seed you have saved from previous years, find out if the variety is still registered before you plant. To find out if your variety is still on the list of registered varieties, you can:

- Contact the company that sold you the seed.
- Review the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA) "List of Varieties which are Registered in Canada." This list is found on CFIA's web site and is updated quarterly. www.inspection.gc.ca
- Check CFIA's web site for any deregistration notices. www.inspection.gc.ca

Check the eligibility of your grain variety

For wheat, malting barley, flaxseed and solin, the Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) designates the class for which each variety of those grain types is eligible. An eligible variety refers to a registered variety and/or a variety that is designated by the CGC to be eligible for a particular grain class, e.g., Canada Western Red Spring. To find out for which class your variety is eligible:

- Check the CGC's web site. www.grainscanada.gc.ca

Future developments

The Canadian Grain Commission is working with CFIA to develop ways of informing producers when a variety is registered or deregistered and to give producers advance warning when a variety is being considered for deregistration.

Grading changes for Canada Western Red Winter wheat

On August 1, 2008, changes in the grade schedule for Canada Western Red Winter wheat took effect. The changes follow recommendations that the Western Standards Committee made in April 2008. They include an increase in minimum test weight, tightened tolerances for some grading factors, and a new grade specification for total damage. The changes are intended to improve marketability of the red winter wheat class both domestically and abroad.

The new grade schedule is included in the *Official Grain Grading Guide*. The Guide is available on the Canadian Grain Commission's web site at www.grainscanada.gc.ca.

The Art and Technology of Scoring Bread

Scoring bread at the Canadian Grain

Commission (CGC) has been an art form for almost 95 years, but that's changing now that a new C-Cell Imaging System has been acquired by the Bread Wheat Research program.

When reviewing the overall baking performance of different wheat, CGC researchers bake bread and score it by assessing the external characteristics of the loaf and the internal characteristics of bread slices. They look at loaf shape and surface properties, crumb colour and brightness, crumb structure, and cell distribution.

Since the first time the Grain Research Laboratory baked bread in 1914, scoring has been done visually, by the laboratory's bakers.

"Scoring bread visually is a true art," says Program Manager of Bread Wheat Research, Nancy Edwards. "It takes years to train someone to score bread with

consistency, and all of our bakers use the same criteria when scoring."

The scoring process is changing with the new C-Cell technology. The system captures a high resolution image of the bread slices, and the software analyses the image and provides objective measurements that are used to score the bread.

For now, the CGC is in a testing phase, comparing measurements from the C-Cell to those from the bakers' visual assessments. So far, the rankings are always the same for brightness and colour.

"The C-Cell is a good step toward providing an objective means of assessing bread quality," says Edwards. "The bakers are enjoying learning the new technology. Eventually, we will switch over from visual assessment to the C-Cell."



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