



Weekly Wheat Bulletin

Date: April 17, 2008 Issue# 13

The Weekly Wheat Bulletin is designed to share quick, informal and reliable information about the state's wheat crop and disease conditions. Comments forwarded by Thursday morning of each week will be posted in the Bulletin for distribution Thursday evening. Archived copies of the 2008 Wheat Bulletin may be accessed on the California Wheat Commission website:
www.californiawheat.org

For those of you that are new to our mailing list, the length of this bulletin will change from week to week. The amount of material is dependent on the contributions of our readers.

Comments:

4.17.08 - "Minor amounts of Stripe Rust showing in Cal Rojo and on Triticale samples, but do not seem to be progressing much so far. Aphids are beginning to increase and questions are coming in on treatment thresholds. We are recommending holding off spraying, allowing predators and parasites time to build as they are very effective given an opportunity. If aphid populations continue building and migrate into the heads during grain filling, and if predators are not present in sufficient numbers then treatment may be necessary.

Second round of irrigations are underway. All in all, wheat looks good!" *Mick Canevari, County Director/Farm Advisor UCCE San Joaquin County*

4.17.08 – "Central Delta wheat looks very good. Most of the wheat has been irrigated and will probably need a 2nd irrigation. There have been no signs of rust. Growers are very happy in our area." *Mike Scriven, grower, San Joaquin County.*

4.17.08 – "Stripe rust in varieties already known to be susceptible has manifested itself in pockets of the San Joaquin Valley, however resistant varieties are still appearing clean. Some early grain, primarily for forage, is starting to fill and approaching soft dough. Most grain fields are going to require at least one, and possibly two more irrigations to finish out the crop, depending on location and stage of growth. Wheat fields range in stage of growth from heading to late milk." *Geoff Schulz, Penny-Newman Grain Company*

4.17.08 – "This week we are approaching our last opportunity to make fungicide applications as most of the wheat is fully headed. I recently heard about fungicide applications made to "Joaquin" wheat. This was a surprise to me as we have not seen any rust showing up in our trial locations.

There have been several applications earlier made to bread and durum wheat at the flag leaf stage as a preventative approach in the absence of foliar diseases, yet hoping for a yield bump with the high wheat prices. Several large scale studies are out to see if this approach is cost effective."

We added a couple things to our upcoming field day to include an alfalfa variety trial. A revised program is attached to this bulletin." *Steve Wright, Farm Advisor- Tulare and Kings Counties-Cotton, Small Grains & Weed Control, University of California Cooperative Extension*

Upcoming Events

"The annual UC Davis Small Grains and Alfalfa Field Day (Grain Handlers Field Day), sponsored by the California Crop Improvement Association (CCIA) and the Department of Plant Sciences, UC Davis, is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, 2008.

Registration and refreshments begin at 8:30 am at the Agronomy Field Headquarters on Hutchison Drive, ½ mile west of HW 113. The Field Day is designed primarily for grain and alfalfa growers, PCA's, seed companies, handlers of certified seed, Campus-based faculty and students, farm advisors, and others interested in small grain and alfalfa production and research.

The Small Grain portion of the Field Day, from 8:30 a.m. until noon, will emphasize and highlight progress in field research on common wheat (hard red and hard white), durum wheat, triticale, barley, and oat and on efforts to improve small grain production in California. A BBQ lunch, hosted by the CCIA, will follow the small grain field tour.

The UC Davis Alfalfa/Forage Field Day, organized by Dan Putnam, Extension Alfalfa/Forage Specialist, will follow the BBQ lunch." *Lee Jackson, Extension Specialist, Small Grains, University of California, Davis.*

Notice

Next week's bulletin will be produced on Friday, April 25, 2008.

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