

California Wheat

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Weekly Wheat Bulletin

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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:

4.9.08 - "The wheat crop is in the heading stage in most of California's Central Valley. Stripe rust infections in the northern part of the Valley (Sacramento Valley and the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta) continue to increase, but are not uniformly severe. I've only encountered a few commercial fields (susceptible varieties that have not been treated with a fungicide) with very severe infection levels (I sampled from a field one mile north of County Line Road on the east side of the I5 Freeway that had stripe rust severity of 80%). To date, I've seen only trace infections in the southern part of the

Valley (San Joaquin Valley). With regard to the formerly resistant variety Cal Rojo (stripe rust infection reported on it in mid-March), infected fields have now been reported from scattered areas (Colusa county, Yolo county, and San Joaquin county) in the northern part of the Valley. However, within that region there are Cal Rojo plantings that are not infected. On the UC Davis Plant Pathology Farm, a planting of Cal Rojo is surrounded by a known susceptible line, D6301, which has 100% severity, 100% incidence, while Cal Rojo has no infection. By comparison, Blanca Grande (a variety that was resistant until 2006), had 60% severity, 100% incidence at that site. The new race that can attack Cal Rojo is not uniformly distributed throughout the Valley. *Lee Jackson, UC Cooperative Extension Specialist, Small Grains*

4.9.08 - "Irrigations continue as the grain wheat crop is rapidly heading and there are many fields well into the milk stage of production in the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valleys. There is some significant weed pressure in many fields, and wild oats seem to be more prevalent than in recent years. Weather forecasts predict mid to upper 80s over the weekend, so the elevated water demand will not see any relief soon. With fields heading out, it is evident that many fields will have extraordinary yields, granted the weather

cooperates. Final nitrogen applications for protein should be occurring in the next 10 days, if not already.” *Geoff Schulz, Penny-Newman Grain Company*

Upcoming Events

“The Tulare and Kings County University of California Cooperative Extension office would like to announce an upcoming Small Grain Forage and Field Day on April 29 and 30 in Five Points, California. A program is attached to this bulletin.” *Steve Wright, Farm Advisor- Tulare and Kings Counties- Cotton, Small Grains & Weed Control University of California Cooperative Extension*

Education

The Wheat CAP program and Jorge Dubcovsky, Professor and Wheat Breeder at U.C. Davis, have developed another animation; this one on Wheat Breeding. You can access this animation at this web link:

http://www.plantsciences.ucdavis.edu/MAS/Wheat/Education/animations/anim_breeding.htm

Wheat Cap stands for **Coordinated Agricultural Project for Wheat**. It is a multi-state, multi-institution project, funded by USDA/CSREES dedicated to the genetic improvement of US wheat through research, education and extension. A primary goal is to implement marker assisted selection (MAS) in more than 25 public wheat breeding programs.

