

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:

3.25.08 - "In light of the discovery of stripe rust in the northern part of the state, we continue very close monitoring of fields in the central and southern San Joaquin Valleys. We have paid particular attention to Cal Rojo because of the report of rust in a field in the Sacramento Valley, and have not found rust to be in that variety in this area. We continue to advise growers to monitor their wheat fields closely and to be prepared to spray if the disease manifests before flowering.

From a market standpoint, local and worldwide demand for white wheat continues to increase. Two new white

varieties, Blanca Fuerte and Blanca Royale, continue to look good in commercial fields around the valley. Any grower who would like to see Blanca Fuerte, Blanca Royale, or any of the other commercial varieties being grown in the San Joaquin Valley can feel free to contact us as we have trials and commercial plantings located around the state for you to observe." *Geoff Schulz, Penny-Newman Grain Company, Fresno*

3.25.08 – "First irrigations have been completed by many and underway in most of the remaining fields. Stripe rust remains a minor problem to date with favorable weather conditions and resistant varieties. This year we are seeing more than normal plant foliage injury (burn, necrotic spotting) that appears to be related to contact type herbicides and influenced by dry windy conditions. Some wheat fields show damage in the range of 15 to 30% leaf burn which is typically more severe than we would expect. Generally, favorable growing conditions and healthy well cared fields will transition through the problem without negative impacts. However, this might not be the case in fields that have soil, disease or moisture limitations." *Mick Canevari, San Joaquin Valley Farm Advisor*

3.27.08 – "Wheat continues to progress nicely. Above normal temperatures are a concern for optimum yields but some cooling is expected for the next week. *Roy Motter, Grower, Imperial Valley*

3.27.08 – “Dryland wheat in Tulare and Kern counties is in dire need of rain. Wheat planted on previously fallowed fields is faring a little better than previously planted fields, but everything is very stressed. A mid-March rain was much needed, but there has been no rain since February 25.” *Jeff Burum, grower, Tulare & Kern counties.*

Know Your Wheat Diseases:

Stripe Rust:

Attached to this bulletin is a series of photos that would help identify Stripe Rust in the field. *Courtesy of Jerry Schmierer, Agronomy Farm Advisor, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba and Glenn Counties*

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