

California Wheat

Made with the Golden Touch!

Weekly Wheat Bulletin

Date: March 06, 2008 Issue# 7

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:

3.04.08 – “Overall, crop (in southern San Joaquin) looks as good as I’ve ever seen. Growers irrigating along with rains, applying fertilizer and weed control, daytime temps perfect. Wheat is in various stages of development; had wheat planted in October through middle of February. Dryland growers will need another drink within 10-14 days.” *Mike Holdsworth, Western Milling*

3.06.08 – “Dryland wheat looks good. Growers spraying for weeds, such as

mustards and wild oats. Haven’t had a rain for a week to 10 days, but crop still looks fairly good. Not concerned at this point.” *Jim Parsons, grower, Ducor, CA*

3.04.08 – “No stripe rust has been detected in any commercial field in Yolo, Solano or Sacramento counties, or in my 4 variety trials as of this date. As Lee Jackson mentioned last week he has found it on the Davis campus. I have been finding Septoria on the lower leaves in most fields I have walked in. If we get rain this next Monday conditions will remain favorable for both diseases. Jerry Schmierer and I have established a Septoria trial in a Joaquin wheat field north of Zamora, CA at County Road 10 and Old 99 West (along I-5). As most of you know we discourage planting the variety Joaquin in the Sacramento Valley due to its susceptibility to Septoria. We will make sequential applications of several fungicides to determine if we can ever get control of this disease. If we get lucky we’ll have a field meeting there.

I am still getting calls about yellow wheat from water logging. Most of these fields are greening up without additional nitrogen. With the very high prices for fertilizer be sure you can get back its cost if you decide to apply more.

Come on out to see my variety trials. All are staked with the variety names on one end.

Locations:

*Best Ranch just east of his shop north side of Co CR 14, east of Hwy 113.

*Gnos Ranch Stevens Bridge Rd 0.2 miles north of Severs Rd on the east side.

*Hunn Merwin is at the east end of N. Courtland Rd. and Z Line, SW corner.

* Mello Farms SW of his shop 3rd road to the south 2nd field, call if you need help.

I am happy to meet you at any one of the locations: 530-666-8733” *Kent Brittan, Yolo, Solano, & Sacramento counties*

3.05.08 – “Wheat looks good at this time. Still have a few growers planting, but 99% of the wheat is in. With the high price of fertilizer, most growers are taking petioles of their wheat to acutely monitor the amount of fertilizer to be applied.” *Roy Motter, grower, Imperial Valley*

3.04.08 – “Wheat fields are responding to the warm weather and less water logged soil issues. Soil nitrogen is becoming available to plants and showing a positive color change and good growth. So far we are optimistic.” *Mick Canevari, Farm Advisor, San Joaquin County*

3.06.08 – “For the past several weeks I have seen large yellow stunted areas in most of our wheat fields. Yesterday on a trip to Modesto I noticed many similar looking fields along the way. Each field must be looked at on the ground to determine if there is likely a nitrogen

deficiency. If there is a nitrogen deficiency, then nitrogen application in the late tillering to boot stage will likely increase yields. The attached 1 ½ page newsletter is a brief discussion of nitrogen topdressing for increased yield in wheat and barley. Nitrogen applications for increasing grain protein will be discussed next week.”

Doug Munier, Glenn County Farm Advisor

Education:

Below is a link to another animation from Jorge Dubcovsky, Professor and Wheat Breeder at U.C. Davis and the Wheat CAP program. This animation is on protein formation.

http://maswheat.ucdavis.edu/Education/animations/anim_protein.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.

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