

Wisconsin Crop Manager

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Factors to Consider While Assessing your 2015 Winter Wheat Crop Stand and Spring Nitrogen Timing

Shawn Conley, Soybean and Wheat Extension Specialist

As the snow begins to melt and we finally put the 2014/15 winter behind us, many growers and consultants alike are beginning to venture out to their winter wheat fields to assess winter injury and nitrogen timings. Though it is premature to make any rash decisions here are a few considerations for assessing your spring 2015 winter wheat stands.

1. As you look across your wheat landscape vibrant green patches will be interspersed with drab brown areas. The brown areas do not necessarily indicate those plants are dead.



2015 Arlington Winter Wheat Variety Trial - Roadside Assessment



2015 In Field Stand Assessment



2015 Planting Depth and Tiller Assessment

Growers and consultants can either reassess in a week or pull plants from the field and place in warm environments. Milk houses and kitchens work perfect. Root regrowth will appear from the crown and will appear as vibrant white roots as shown below.



Spring Root Regrowth in Winter Wheat

If plants do not recover our critical threshold for turning over a field is 12 to 15 live plants per square foot. Below this threshold is an automatic replant. For more detailed information on assessing winterkill please view [Wheat Stand Assessment, Winterkill Yield loss, and Nitrogen Application](#).

2. Evaluate tiller number and make the N timing decisions. It is important to remember that the functional purpose of spring N is to 1. stimulate tillering and 2. provide crop nutrition. If ample tillering (> 70 tillers per square foot) has occurred growers can delay N applications up to pre-joint (Feekes 4-5; Zadoks 30). This practice will aid in minimizing early spring N loss. Applications of N made after this growth stage may lead to wheel track damage. If growers have < 70 tillers per square foot it is important to get across those fields as soon as possible to minimize yield loss due to low tiller/head counts. For more information on tiller counts and spring N timing please view my YouTube video entitled: Wheat Stand Assessment and Nitrogen Timing
3. Lastly remember that wheat grain in itself is only part of the revenue you capture with winter wheat. The price of winter wheat straw remains strong so please consider that revenue stream before any replant decisions are made.

Common Ragweed Confirmed ALS Inhibitor-Resistant in Brown County, Wisconsin

Recently, Thomas Butts, a graduate research assistant, Vince Davis, and Dave Stoltenberg confirmed that a common ragweed population in Wisconsin is resistant to an ALS inhibitor. The full [report is now available](#). For more information, [please visit the WCWS documents page](#).

Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) Updates

Brian Hudelson, Sean Toporek and Joyce Wu

The PDDC receives samples of many plant and soil samples from around the state. The following diseases/disorders have been identified at the PDDC from February 28, 2015 through March 6, 2015.

PLANT/SAMPLE TYPE	DISEASE/DISORDER	PATHOGEN	COUNTY
FRUIT CROPS			
Cherry	Bacterial Canker	<i>Pseudomonas sp.</i>	Dane
	Brown Rot	<i>Monilinia fructicola</i>	Dane

The PDDC receives samples of many plant and soil samples from around the state. The following diseases/disorders have been identified at the PDDC from March 7, 2015 through March 13, 2015.

PLANT/SAMPLE TYPE	DISEASE/DISORDER	PATHOGEN	COUNTY
VEGETABLES			
Spinach	<i>Cladosporium Leaf Spot</i>	<i>Cladosporium variabile</i>	Dane

For additional information on plant diseases and their control, visit the PDDC website at pddc.wisc.edu

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