

WHEAT VARIETY NEWS

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1863 (KWA): K-State's experimental line KS020319 was just released as 1863. 1863 is a medium-maturity variety in terms of heading date, somewhat similar to 2137, Jagalene, and PostRock. This year favored earlier maturing varieties in general in Kansas, and its yields were nothing outstanding, except in north central Kansas. That's its main area of adaptation. In previous testing, its yields have been similar to those of Everest.

Armour (WestBred): Armour had a more variable year in 2012 than in the recent past. Where it was sprayed for stripe rust, it continued to be one of the top varieties, especially in central and eastern areas. In western Kansas, it tillered a little too much for the extremely dry conditions late in the season, and sloughed tillers. It was also a little short in western Kansas due to the dry conditions.

Byrd (PlainsGold): Byrd is a new Plains Gold brand variety from the Colorado Wheat Research Foundation. Its pedigree is half TAM 112, along with Ike and Halt. Byrd had very good results in the 2012 K-State, CSU, and UNL tests. It has excellent drought tolerance, a medium long coleoptile, and excellent milling and baking qualities. Keep an eye on this promising new variety.

Denali (KWA and PlainsGold): Denali is a new variety co-released by the Kansas Wheat Alliance and the Colorado Wheat Research Foundation under the PlainsGold brand. Its pedigree is half TAM 111 crossed with a line that is half Yumar. Denali has very good potential for western Kansas and eastern Colorado, but a couple of things went against it in 2012. For one thing, it was moderately susceptible to the new race of stripe rust, which affected its results in some of the tests that weren't sprayed. Perhaps more importantly, Denali is a daylength sensitive variety. That means it heads out on roughly the same calendar date every year, regardless of environmental conditions. In 2012, when most other varieties were speeding right along, Denali waited and ended up being much later to head than normal relative to other varieties. 2012 was a year when varieties that headed late were hurt. In more "normal" years, Denali is expected to do well and show its true potential. Keep an eye on this variety.

Hatcher (PlainsGold): Hatcher is one of the top 4 or 5 varieties overall for dryland in western Kansas, eastern Colorado, the Oklahoma/Texas Panhandle, and western Nebraska. Newer varieties such as Byrd, Denali, and Brawl CL Plus are now outperforming Hatcher in those areas, but there's not much seed yet of those newer varieties for the fall of 2012. Based on field reports, Hatcher is still one of the top-yielding varieties for many farmers in the western regions of the Central Plains, and is almost never a disappointment.

Sy Gold (AgriPro): This newer AgriPro variety has ranged from average to above average in tests the last two years. In most cases, SY Wolf, another new AgriPro variety, is showing better results and seems to have more promise.

Sy Wolf (AgriPro): Field reports have been very good in 2012, mostly from seed production fields in north central and northwest Kansas. Sy Wolf has better stripe rust resistance than SY Gold, another newer AgriPro variety. Its yield record in the 2012 K-State tests was considerably better than Sy Gold's, especially in northwest Kansas.

TAM 111 (AgriPro): This variety had mostly average to good field reports in 2012, growing in a tough environment in a tough year. It became susceptible to the 2012 race of stripe rust. Its field reports this year were probably best overall in northwest Kansas.

TAM 112 (Watley Seeds): This variety continues to have good field reports, especially in areas where drought is a major factor. TAM 112 is grown in a tough environment, and it rarely disappoints. It should be sprayed with a fungicide if stripe rust is a problem, however. It has weak straw, and this can be a problem at times. Many early varieties had more lodging problems than usual in 2012. TAM 112 has good resistance to wheat streak mosaic and the wheat curl mite.

TAM 113 (AGSECO, Warner Seeds): This new variety is somewhat similar to TAM 111 and TAM 112, but with better leaf disease resistance. Its wheat streak mosaic reaction isn't known yet. In Texas High Plains yield tests, its dryland yields have been very similar to TAM 111 and TAM 112 so far. It is photoperiod sensitive, which made it head later than usual in 2012.

Winterhawk (WestBred): Field reports on Winterhawk in 2012 and 2011 have been very good, especially in western regions. It has great yields, good overall stress tolerance, and good straw production for ground cover. It is one of the few varieties on the market, however, susceptible to stem rust. This is a dangerous disease and hard to control if it occurs, so don't plant too much of your acreage to this variety in case stem rust causes a problem this coming season. In all other respects, it is one of the top varieties for western areas.

Source: Central Plains – The Wheat Farmer/Row Crop Farmer
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