

Soft Winter Wheat

notes and observations for Michigan

July 26, 2016

Marestail in wheat stubble

Marestail is spreading at a terrific rate across much of MI. Wheat stubble offers a chance to minimize its spread. In the last two issues of the C.O.R.N newsletter from OSU, Mark Loux has written two pieces directed toward marestail:

- [Marestail Control in wheat stubble issue 2016-21.](#) and
- [Marestail Control in wheat stubble, Cover crop considerations, issue 2016-22](#)



Wheat Watcher notes as of July 26, 2016

Wheat Watcher	Comments on wheat harvest
Ned Birkey Spartan Ag Consulting Monroe, Ida	Biggest contributor to good yields was soys harvested in a timely manner, allowing wheat to be planted "on time."
James DeDecker MSU Extension Presque Isle, Rogers City	About 35% of harvest complete. Yields are average or slightly above, mostly ranging from 60 to 90 bu. Test weight is tending to be somewhat low (56-58 lbs) reflecting some small shriveled kernels from our lack of rainfall. No reports of DON or sprout.
Paul Gross MSU Extension Isabella Co., Mt. Pleasant	Harvest 99% complete. Test wts are 58-61 lbs. Low or no DON and no sprout concern due to dry conditions. Our crop was much better than most expected considering dry conditions as well as stripe rust issues. I think growers are rethinking fungicide application strategies.
Bill Guilford Guilford-Beagle Farm	Harvest complete. Test wts were > 53 .No falling number or DON issues. Yields mostly 80 to 89 bu and was lower than we like, probably due to the lack of seasonal moisture.

Saginaw Co, Hemlock	
Mitch Murray MI Ag Commodities Newaygo Co, Grant	Harvest 85 to 90% complete. Good TW. Quality has been great - virtually no DON or low FN. Yields are anywhere from 35 to 110+ with the majority in the 80-90 range. Got between 1.5-2.5+ in. of rain yesterday (2nd or 3rd rain on some fields). Concerned the remainder of crop may have sprout & FN issues.
Chris Schmidt Schmidt Fms of Auburn Bay Co., Auburn	Harvest is completed. Yields averaged 100 to 135 bu. Grain quality was excellent. Lots of low 60's TW - even in SWW. No one I've talked to had <100bu/ac. Everyone has been on high mgt in this area for some time. I think the growers continue to refine their techniques. The combination of Palasade plus split N application is gaining utilization
Tom Smith Moline Coop, Allegan Co, Moline	Harvest completed. 58-61 TW. Highest yields around here are about 100 bu. I'm guessing around 80 bu average. Did not hear of any DON concerns. Major concern here is low manganese - we have to watch this closer next year.
Carl Sparks Sparks Cedarlee Farm Cass Co., Cassopolis	99 % harvested. Grain quality is very good. This area was very dry, but yields are near normal- mostly 50 to 80 bu. But there was some 100 bu.yield under irrigation.
Fred Springborn MSU Extension MontcalmCo, Stanton	Harvest is about 90% complete. All measurements suggest very good quality. Yields are above average (60 - 100 bu.) even though dry weather reduced yields. Irrigated wheat has gone as high as 120 bu. Harvest has started on the 300 plus ac of soft spring wheat in the area.
Steve Wagner Agri Busines Ingham Co., Okemas	98% harvested. DON levels very low. Yield average of 70 bu. This is down from last year due to no moisture in June.
Tim Wilke Coop Elevator Co. Huron Co, Bad Axe	Harvest 99% complete. Test wts 59 - 61. Yields mostly 90 - 110 bu. Excellent quality in this soft white area. Some yields reached at least 120 bu/ac. Prices will likely lead to fewer ac this fall.
Lisa Szymanski, Szymanski farm Huron Co., Port Austin	I would say we are at 95% harvested or better. Average yields would be around 100bushels.The dry hot temperatures with low humidity were a concern during harvest. There were 3 field fires in Huron county in 4 days.Fortunately no one was hurt.
Scott Wahl, Britton Elevator Lenawee Co., Britten	Harvest complete. 58.5-60.5TW. Yield ranged from 75 to 110 bu. Under average mgt, yields were 75 to 85 b;, high mgt yields were 95 to 110. No Vom. Wheat was extremely tall due to optimal conditions in early spring. Hot and dry weather week of flowering which hurt yields.

<p>John Pullis, Star of West Tuscola Co., Richville</p>	<p>Harvest complete. Quality is very good in all respects. Yields highly variable : 75 to 130 depending on rainfall amounts and soil texture,</p>
<p>Dennis Pennington MSU Barry Co., Hastings</p>	<p>Harvest nearly complete. Test weights have been 58 - 62 TW. Yields have been better than expected. Heavier soils: 100-125 bu/a; lighter soils: 50-70 bushel. FN tests are good. The highest DON level I have heard was 0.8 ppm. Contributing to high yields: early planting, good fall tillering, little or no winter kill, early season moisture. If the dry spell hurt yields, it couldn't have been much (except on light soils). Good crop!</p>
<p>Martin Nagelkirk MSU Extension Sanilac Co. Sandusky</p>	<p>Harvest 99% complete. Test wts were mostly 58 - 62lbs. Excellent yields in eastern Tuscola and Sanilac Counties. Most fields yielded between 90 and 125 bu, but a number of fields exceeded 130 bu/ac. Attribute much of this bump in yields to early planting and extended fall conditions. Quality continued to be very good throughout harvest.</p>