

March 2013

Court Seeds



COURT SEEDS & GREENHOUSES

PO Box 280
Plumas, MB
R0J 1P0
204-386-2354
courtseeds@gmail.com

IN THIS ISSUE:

New grain varieties
Agronomy Notes
Seed Treating Services



From Randy's Desk

New varieties and crop insurance changes

I recently attended the Prairie Grain Development Committee meetings in Saskatoon, more commonly referred to as the variety registration meetings. All new varieties of most crop types are presented and discussed as to whether they will be registered in Western Canada. It is an interesting process to watch how the committee members can influence the future of western Canadian grain farmers with every vote for or against varieties. In addition to attending the meetings, I am nominated to the disease evaluation team for wheat, rye, triticale, oats and barley.

Changing the classes of spring wheat is a close reality and has been accelerated with the loss of monopoly marketing by the CWB. The CPS (Canadian Prairie Spring) class will have its criteria widened to include higher levels of protein. This will allow for the inclusion of American varieties of DNS (Dark Northern Spring) wheat, along with other GP wheat, which generally do not meet the criteria for HRS wheat, yet have excellent milling qualities. There are also a number of new Canadian-bred varieties with excellent *Fusarium*

resistance and yield that will fit within this new class. This will help to maintain Canada's reputation as a supplier of high quality wheat to the world.

The CPS class could become the new standard for milling wheat in Western Canada and may become the new normal. Producers can expect increased *Fusarium* resistance, 20% increase in yield, as well as other beneficial traits, without a price penalty if current market conditions prevail. Furthermore, crop insurance currently places all GP and unregistered US varieties in the feed wheat category, but there is substantially better coverage for CPS wheat.

The new DNS variety FALLER from North Dakota has been grabbing a lot of attention lately. It is currently unregistered and cannot be bought or sold for seed purposes and CFIA is monitoring for its presence in the system. A small IP program for FALLER announced by Patterson was quickly filled, and until it is registered this is the only way it can be legally marketed in Canada except as feed. The IP program is a closed loop, requiring purchase of



Randy Court, BScA
C: 204-212-2354

Certified seed and returning all production. However, we expect a larger IP program for 2014. Court Seeds is part of the dealer network that has acquired the Canadian marketing rights to this exciting variety.

Crop Insurance

Make sure you read your Crop Insurance package as there are a number of changes to Soybean, Bean, Corn and Sunflower coverage for this year, as well as a number of changes coming for 2014 regarding excess moisture and winter wheat coverage. **NOTE: The deadline for making changes to your Crop Insurance coverage is April 2, 2013.**



Tracy Court, Agronomist
204-212-0349

Did you know?

There are more arable acres in the Peace River region than in all of Manitoba.

Agronomy Notes

Winter wheat survival

So your winter wheat didn't make it up last fall...now what?

With the dry conditions experienced last fall many producers are worried about the survivability of their winter wheat crops. While it's always a good idea to have a backup plan, let's not give up on the crop just yet. Winter wheat is an extremely adaptable crop and can often maintain a strong yield potential in the face of delayed fall development.

The two most important factors in winter survival are cold acclimation (the development of winter hardiness) and vernalization (the switch from vegetative to reproductive growth). While cold acclimation is mainly influenced by fall temperatures and weather patterns after emergence, vernalization can occur anytime after the germination process has begun. This means that neither emergence nor

vegetative growth is required for vernalization to take place, as long as the seed has begun to imbibe water (the first stage of germination). Winter wheat that germinated late last fall will likely survive the winter, but don't expect a robust crop this spring.

The ideal development stage for winter wheat entering winter is three or more leaves with a tiller, as this gives it the best chance of survival. Larger plants have a more developed crown and resume growth earlier in the spring, usually resulting in higher yield, earlier maturity and better weed competitiveness. With delayed development the winter survivability is only slightly reduced, but since the crop will have to rely mainly on depleted seed reserves to resume growth in the spring, the crop competitiveness and maturity will be more greatly affected. To give the weakened crop the best chance of survival be

prepared to fertilize and control weeds early in the season. Most importantly give the crop time to recover before making a spring assessment and the decision to re-seed.

If you do decide to re-seed this spring keep in mind last year's crop and herbicides used, as well as the number of days to maturity and crop insurance deadlines for the re-seeded crop. Some of your best crop options are early maturing barley, oats, canola or soybeans, but be sure to maintain a healthy crop rotation. If re-seeding to a spring cereal it's strongly recommended you spray out any surviving winter wheat plants to control volunteers and eliminate the "green bridge" that can allow diseases and insects to move from old to new plants. Finally, keep in mind any crop seeded late in the spring will have a lower yield potential so fertilize and plan accordingly.

Seed Treating Services



New for the 2013 season Court Seeds has added a second seed treater to increase our treating capacity. This new treater is specifically designed for soybeans and features a mixing drum to ensure even distribution of seed treatments and gentler handling of seeds. Additionally, we will be able to apply both seed

treatment and inoculants simultaneously.

New seed treatments will also be available this season for custom treating on cereals and soybeans. Syngenta has recently released Cruiser Maxx Vibrance Beans and Cruiser Maxx Vibrance Cereals for treating on soybeans and cereals

respectively. We will also be carrying Raxil WW from Bayer CropScience.

Custom seed treating of up to two different products will be available on all spring pickups with prior notice. Give us a call to discuss your treating options and to secure your product for the spring season.