

News Column

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For Release 07/11/16
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WHEAT PLOT RESULTS

Most wheat yield reports I heard this year ranged from 50 to 80 bushels per acres in Riley county. I think we'd have to say this was a good wheat year,...if you just consider yield. If you consider price,...then ouch!

I don't think there are many who expected to go back to the LDP days. We didn't expect prices to get this low, but here we are. So, let's quickly review how this works. LDP stands for Loan Deficiency Payment. The LDP kicks in when the PCP (Posted County Price) drops below the loan rate. The PCP last week was \$3.09 and the loan rate was \$3.15, yielding a \$.06 per bushel LDP.

LDP payments are handled through the FSA Office – that's Farm Service Agency, if you're trying to keep up with the acronyms – and must be requested before you sell the grain. So, the game we play now is to try to pick the day wheat is at its' lowest, request the LDP, then hold the crop and wait for a higher price. Basically, it's just another way to gamble.

This year's wheat plot was kind of a community effort, with Ronnie and Roger Nelson planting and Nathan Klocke harvesting the plot, located about 5 miles north of Randolph. The plot was planted no-till behind soybeans on October 12, 2015, and harvested June 30, 2016.

The ground was dry at planting time and stayed dry until December, resulting in a less-than-perfect stand. In March the plot still looked tough, then rains in late April and all of May made a good crop.

Yield results are shown in the following table. The initial moisture was 15% when we tried to cut at 11:00 a.m. We waited 30 minutes, and it was dry, so you can ignore the moisture column. The unidentified varieties are from a company that requested not to have results published unless plots were replicated.

Variety	Moisture (%)	Test Weight (lbs./A)	Yield (bu./A)
WB 4458	15.0	58	48.4
Everest	11.2	61	47.6
LCS Wizard	11.5	60	43.8
KanMark	12.3	60	54.8
LCS Mint	12.3	62	52.3
	12.2	61	53.8
Check	12.5	61	54.1
Winterhawk	12.0	61	53.9
WB Redhawk	11.2	61	55.3
WB Cedar	12.2	62	60.0
	12.3	61	56.5
1863	12.4	62	55.9
Check	12.2	62	57.9
	11.9	61	54.1
WB Grainfield	12.1	61	73.7
Check	11.5	61	59.7
Armour	12.2	61	40.0
Mix (Cleanout)	11.7	60	57.0

Check = Cedar/Everest/Hotrod Blend

If you have questions, you can reach me at the Riley County Extension Office at 785/537-6350. Or, you can send e-mail to gmcclure@ksu.edu.

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