WHEAT QUALITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

By Ben Handcock, Executive Vice President

The Wheat Quality Council (WQC) held its annual meeting, forum and technical review sessions February 17-19, 2015 at the KCI Embassy Suites Hotel in Kansas City, MO with 145 industry participants in attendance.

The WQC is the only industry-wide organization that brings together all wheat interests from breeders and producers to millers, processors and bakers. These participants are provided information on the milling and baking qualities of wheat varieties that will be released, grown and processed in the next few years.

The wheat breeders have an opportunity to network with the industry to determine what quality characteristics the millers and bakers would like to see in new wheat varieties.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The meeting began with the WQC Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, February 17. Following discussions on financial, membership and budget reports, the annual election was held. The following people will serve on the WQC governing board for 2015: Monte White, Research Products, Chair; Lee Sanders, ABA, Vice Chair; Len Heflich, BIMBO Bakeries, Past Chair; Terry Selleck, Bay State, Exec Committee; Justin Gilpin, KS Wheat, Exec Committee; Bob Sombke, ND Mill, Exec Committee. Others serving on the Board include: Brian Walker, Ardent Mills; Kevin Sebby, Miller Milling; Dave Green, ADM; Lori Wilson, Kellogg Co; Dave Katzke, General Mills; Marc Siebrecht, Bunge NA; Steve Nenonen, Foss NA; Cathy Butti,
FORUM

The theme of the forum this year was divided into two parts. The first session dealt with organic wheat.

Syngenta/Agripro; Sid Perry, Monsanto/Westbred; Carl Griffey, VA Tech; Reid Christopherson, SD Wheat Commission; Darrell Hanavan, CO Wheat; Ben Boroughs, NAMA; Rich Horsley, ND State and Brad Seabourn, USDA-ARS-CGAHR.

Ron Sterk, Milling and Baking News, Made a presentation called “The increasing demand for organic wheat products”.

Rich Little, University of Nebraska talked about “Breeding wheat for organic producers.”

Carmen Fernholz, a producer from Madison, MN explained “The challenges and rewards of organic production.”

Jay Johnson, Hesco Inc, gave a presentation about “Originating organic wheat.”

Terry Selleck, Bay State Milling, detailed the logistics of “Milling organic wheat.”

Craig Warner, BIMBO Bakeries USA, provided insight into “Baking organic wheat products.”
The second session of the afternoon tackled the recent questions about glyphosate use in wheat.

Angela Post, OK State University, gave “A southern plains perspective.”

Joel Ransom, ND State University, gave “A North Dakota Perspective.”

Jeff Koscelny, Monsanto, gave us “Monsanto’s Response to the discussion.”

The keynote dinner speaker was Dr. Tom Clemente, University of Nebraska. His topic was “Agriculture Biotechnology.” He gave an entertaining presentation detailing the very small differences between conventional and biotech crops, and the consumer’s perception of biotech. He was very well received.

The speakers did an excellent job and good comments were made regarding their presentations. Reporters from Milling and Baking News and Reuters were in attendance and I would expect to see some coverage from them, so watch for that. We thank them for their willingness to cover our conference each year.

*SNAPSHOT OF LINES ENTERED FOR REVIEW THIS YEAR*
(The Soft Wheat Quality Council is holding a separate meeting This year, so their entries are not included in this summary)

Thirty-five breeder-submitted lines and checks were entered for evaluation from the 2014 growing season. These lines were hard spring and hard winter wheats.

In the Hard Springs: (All entries compared to the excellent check, Glenn. Elgin was entered again this year as a possible replacement for Glenn in the future.)

**World Wide Wheat:** Entered three lines-2 whites and one red. The red line was rated pretty close to the check. The 2 white lines were below the check.

**University of Minnesota:** Entered two lines. MN08165-8 was actually rated above Glenn last year and was back again. It has been released and named “Bolles.” It has excellent protein and mills and bakes at least equal to Glenn. This line is being considered as a replacement for the “Glenn” check. MN10201-4 has good BYD resistance and will continue to be tested.
**South Dakota State University:** Entered one line, released as “Focus,” that was rated pretty equal to the check. Designated for planting in the western 2/3 of the state.

**North Dakota State University:** Entered one line, plus the 2nd check “Elgin”. “Elgin” has been released to be grown in Eastern ND due to a good disease package. ND817, with an excellent FHB resistance package is still being considered for release.

**Syngenta/Agripro:** Has released “SY Ingmar.” This line is middle of the pack on yield, but has really good protein and was well liked by everyone.

**Limagrain Cereal Seeds:** Entered 2 hard red releases. “LCS Pro” was well liked by all, but has no resistance to FHB and is targeted to the western production areas. “LCS Nitro” has high yield potential and is targeted for intensive management growers in the eastern areas. Lower protein, but performs pretty good.

**In the Hard Winters: (All entries compare to the common check-“Jagalene,” plus each individual breeder’s internal check)**

**Montana State University:** Entered two lines. MT1078, is a hollow stemmed red line with lower test weight and protein. MT1138 is a hard red with high protein. Both were well liked by most as good strong wheats.

**University of Nebraska:** Entered two hard red lines. NE07531 and NE09521. 07531 would be adapted to south central and southwestern NE. 09521 will fit better in eastern NE. Both were rated a little lower than the check but still pretty good.

**Kansas State University-Hays:** Entered 2 hard white lines. KS11HW39-5 is on increase. KS11HW15-4 is not on increase yet. Both lines performed better than “Danby” but lower than the check.

**Oklahoma State University:** Entered two reds. OK09125 has good drought tolerance and is the highest yielder. OK10126 is a good yielder with strong straw. Both have good proteins and performed great in this year’s test. They were very well like by everybody and received the “millers” award for the breeder. Congratulations Brett Carver!!

**Syngenta/AgriPro:** Entered 2 hard red lines. Breeder, Jon Rich, had a failure with the check and neither line performed very well, which was a surprise to him. They have several years of internal data that shows good performance. One line has been released as “SY Sunrise.” The other line: 06BC722#25 is a high yielder with Hessian fly resistance.

**Colorado State University:** Entered 2 hard red lines. CO11D174 is the highest yielding line they tested and is on increase to be released in fall 2015. CO11D446 is also on increase for possible release in fall 2016. Both of these lines baked very well in spite of their slightly lower protein levels. Were well liked by most.
Texas A&M: Entered 3 red lines. All were good strong wheats liked by the cooperators. All 3, TX08A001249, TX09A001194 and TX09D1172 are on seed increase, but no decision has been made regarding release. Likely will not release all three of them.

Kansas State University-Manhattan: Entered “KanMark,” a hard red that is yield competitive across Kansas. It has a yield advantage over TAM-111, the leading variety. It performed very well in the baking tests, nearly equal to “Jagalene.”

Cooperators

A total of 34 cooperators from across the United States evaluated our hard wheat lines from 2014. This is a huge investment of money, time and effort on their part. They are truly dedicated to our program and deserve our sincere thanks and gratitude for their participation.

Upcoming Events

Wheat Tours:
- Hard Winter Tour Dates are May 4-7, 2015
- Hard Spring and Durum Tour Dates are July 27-30, 2015

(Registration forms at www.wheatqualitycouncil.org)

2016 Annual Meeting
February 16-18 at the Embassy Suites, Kansas City, MO