

Hard Winter Wheat Quality Tour 2009

All Averages are Weighted

Day One - May 5			Range	Range	Route Avg
Route	Car Average	Stops	Low	High	
Purple 1	42	12	26	67	
Purple 2	44	15	19	81	
Purple 3					
Purple 4					43
Green 1	39	12	28	48	
Green 2	41	18	13	64	
Green 3	41	19	24	67	
Green 4					41
Pink 1	44	13	19	57	
Pink 2	51	12	23	89	
Pink 3	38	13	19	64	
Pink 4	45	13	22	59	44
Yellow 1	41	14	27	59	
Yellow 2	44	16	22	54	
Yellow 3					43
Blue 1	36	12	23	47	
Blue 2	38	14	27	69	
Blue 3					
Blue 4					37
Black 1	37	16	29	58	
Black 2	40	16	20	65	
Black 3					38

2008 45.4 190 stops
 2007 40.0 209 stops
 2006 40.6 210 stops
 2005 48.9 192 stops
 2004 38.0 202 stops
 2003 38.6 179 stops
 2002 37.4 234 stops
 2001 32.6 212 stops

Total Stops	215
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Day 1 Avg	41.3
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Hard Winter Wheat Quality Tour 2009

All Averages are Weighted

Day Two - May 6			Range		Route Avg
Route	Car Average	Stops	Low	High	
Purple 1	45	17	13	68	
Purple 2	38	15	28	53	
Purple 3					
Purple 4					42
Green 1	38	12	30	48	
Green 2	42	14	24	55	
Green 3					
Green 4					40
Pink 1	35	12	22	49	
Pink 2					
Pink 3	34	14	23	45	
Pink 4	35	13	25	43	35
Yellow 1	35	16	25	53	
Yellow 2	52	17	23	90	
Yellow 3	45	13	23	75	44
Blue 1	37	13	20	53	
Blue 2	35	12	19	54	
Blue 3	43	18	19	62	
Blue 4					39
Black 1	41	13	31	53	
Black 2	37	13	16	52	
Black 3					39

Oklahoma

5.2 MM Planted
 Prod 20.3 bu per acre
 Prod Est 77MM bu
 LY 167.5MM bu Prod

KS Two Day Totals		KS Two Day
	Avg	40.6
	Stops	427

2008 2 day 43.3/357

2007 2 day 41.6/417

2006 2 day 37.2/404

2005 2 day 46.5/399

2004 2-day 36.7/407

2003 2-day 38.1/371

2002 2-day 34.5/442

2001 2-day 32.1/438

2008 D2 40.9/167 stops

2007 D2 43.2/208 stops

2006 D2 33.5/194 stops

2005 D2 44.2/207 stops

2004 D2 35.4/205 stops

2003 D2 37.7/192 stops

2002 D2 31.3/208 stops

2001 D2 31.7/226 stops

Total Stops	212
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Day 2 Avg	39.8
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Hard Winter Wheat Quality Tour 2009

All Averages are Weighted

Day Three - May 7			Range	Range	Route Avg
Route	Car Average	Stops	Low	High	
Purple 1	38	3	22	58	
Purple 2	42	3	39	46	
Purple 3					
Purple 4					40
Green 1	40	4	20	60	
Green 2					
Green 3					
Green 4					40
Pink 1	40	3	30	48	
Pink 2	43	4	33	53	
Pink 3					
Pink 4					42
Yellow 1	44	4	40	50	
Yellow 2	33	2	24	42	
Yellow 3	49	2	46	52	43
Blue 1	48	3	29	58	
Blue 2	67	1			
Blue 3					
Blue 4					52
Black 1	52	3	44	67	
Black 2					
Black 3					52

2008 D3 43.3/31 stops
 2007 D3 32.4/30 stops
 2006 D3 38.8/31 stops
 2005 D3 42.8/36 stops
 2004 D3 44.0/46 stops
 2003 D3 43.8/45 stops
 2002 D3 47.3/41 stops
 2001 D3 39.0/42 stops

Total Stops	32
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Day 3 Avg	43.7
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Hard Winter Wheat Quality Tour 2009

Three Day Total

May 5-8, 2009

Yield Potential

All Averages are Weighted

	Stops	Stop/Car	Average	Low	High
Day 1	215	14.3	41.3	13	89
Day 2	212	14.1	39.8	13	90
Day 3	32	2.9	43.7	20	66.8
Total	459	31.4	40.8		

Historical

Year	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Average	Stops
2008	45.4	40.9	43.3	43.3	388
2007	40.0	43.2	32.4	41.0	447
2006	40.6	33.5	38.8	37.3	435
2005	48.9	44.2	42.8	46.2	435
2004	38.0	35.4	44.0	37.4	453
2003	38.6	37.7	43.8	38.8	416
2002	37.4	31.3	47.3	35.6	483
2001	32.6	31.7	39.0	32.7	480
2000	40.8	41.4	45.1	41.4	479
1999	38.0	40.0	37.2	38.9	527

Tour Participants - Breakdown

Class	Number	Percent
Government	6	11
University	5	9
Media	5	9
Grain	18	32
Milling	8	14
Baker	4	7
Producers	2	4
Other	9	16

2009 Wheat Quality Council Hard Winter Tour Completed

Fifteen cars with 57 crop scouts surveyed and evaluated the potential of the Kansas wheat crop the week of May 4-7, 2009. The total number of field stops was 459 compared to 388 one year ago. This year the scouts came more prepared for mud and just did the job.

The participants attended a brief training and tour overview session in Manhattan on the evening of May 4 before enjoying a great steak fry. The meeting and dinner was held at the restored Depot in Manhattan and steaks were prepared by the KSU Animal Science graduate student organization.

Day one saw the 15 cars traveling on six different routes from Manhattan to Colby. (See tour map). The wheat seemed especially good on the northern routes this year. There is a north to south strip in central Kansas that has some barley yellow dwarf problems and that was mentioned by many cars. The Nebraska area and the area closer to Colby have the best wheat we've seen on those routes in some time. Yields for the day ranged from 13-89 bushels per acre with the day one average on all routes at 41.3 bushels. This compares with 45.4 bushels one year ago. We stopped in 215 fields on day one.

Day Two the cars traveled from Colby to Wichita. Several cars went into far western Kansas counties and three cars actually covered the northern tier of Oklahoma counties. The western Kansas area has the best potential for a good wheat crop in several years. They have had adequate moisture lately, but certainly not surplus. Scouts reported seeing Russian wheat aphids in some fields, and this might be a continuing problem for producers in that region of the state. The cars traveling through the central part of Kansas saw the barley yellow dwarf again. The day two average was 39.8 bushels per acre compared to 40.9 in 2008. We had a range from 13-90 bushels and made 212 stops.

Day Three concluded the trip with the cars traveling from Wichita to Kansas City. We lost several cars and people in Wichita and made 32 stops on the shortened day. This smaller production area does not have a significant impact on the state-wide average, but is usually a high yielding area. Yields ranged from 20-67 bushels with the day three average at 43.7 compared to 43.3 last year. There seemed to be a surplus of top soil moisture in the entire area.

The Calculated Average for the entire tour was **40.8** bushels per acre compared to 43.3 bushels on the same routes in 2008. The scouts use a formula provided by KS Ag Statistics to arrive at their calculated average. The formula is based on a 10-year rolling average and changes slightly from year to year.

The Estimated Production for the Kansas crop by **52** participants who joined the pool this year is **333.3** million bushels. These people base their estimates on yield estimates and acres expected to be harvested. There are always a number of abandoned acres and they attempt to factor that into the equation. KS Ag Statistics will release their official estimate of the crop on Tuesday, May 12. They surveyed the crop about the same time we did.

Oklahoma officials joined us in Wichita to give the results of their state survey. The production this year in Oklahoma will be dramatically reduced due to drought and freeze damage. They reported 5.2 million acres planted last fall, but huge areas will not be harvested. They are expecting the average to be around 20.3 bushels per acre and total production to be 77 million bushels compared to 167.5 last year.

My personal observations, for what they're worth, are as follows:

For the first time in a long time we are not worried about moisture shortages in most parts Kansas. We saw a fair amount of wheat that just recently received pretty good precipitation, however. Many of those fields have lost tillers due to the dryness but are showing decent recovery. The jury is still out on how well they will yield. There are some areas where the wheat is very short and immature at this stage. When the hot weather arrives in Kansas, these fields may not fill well and may have lighter test weights. There is the barley yellow dwarf issue to contend with in the usually high yielding area of the state. Some of the flag leaves are severely infected and the wheat has not yet started to fill.

The good news is that most of the crop appears to be very healthy and has that good dark green color. We also saw very little severe freeze damage and most of the crop seems to be recovering from that incident rather nicely. We have some producers concerned about leaf rust, but this would not appear to be a huge issue overall. I was very pleased with the almost total lack of weed pressure in the areas I traveled. I believe this is about an average Kansas wheat crop, the 10-year average being about 348 million bushels. Our estimate is about 15 million less, but 15 million bushels can be picked up very quickly with good weather.

Please keep in mind that this whole tour is a snapshot in time regarding the potential of this crop. About half of our group was first-timers. They reported learning a lot about wheat while having a good time doing it. The value of this exercise is the people you meet and the friends you make and keep in contact with over the years to come. Although I think we did a fine job of estimating the crop potential that really takes a back seat to the real value of the tour. This was truly a very diverse group of very nice people.

Thanks to all who sent employees, provided cars and helped in many ways to make this tour a success. I look forward to your support on our 54th annual Wheat Quality Council Hard Winter Wheat Tour.

Please share this information with others in your organization that may not be on our email list!!!

Remember our Hard Spring and Durum tour coming up on July 27-30. This tour covers North Dakota plus parts of Minnesota and South Dakota. A few brave souls will venture into Montana to look for a few more Durum fields to report on. The format is very similar to the winter tour, and registration forms are available on our web site at www.wheatqualitycouncil.org.