

TO: Seedsmen
FROM: Fernando Guillen
DATE: July 23, 2020

SUBJECT: Entries for the 2020-2021 Hard Red Spring Wheat Performance Test

I am soliciting cultivars or experimental lines for our regional Hard Red Spring Wheat (HRSW) performance test across South Texas. Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension conducts HRSW variety tests across South Texas at approximately four locations. A significant portion of the wheat grown in this region is fall-planted spring wheat due to mild winters and vernalization issue with many winter wheat varieties. Results will be provided as soon as possible to you, county agents, crop consultants, and the Texas Wheat Producers Board for distribution to producers. Spring wheat results will be combined with winter wheat trials and included in a final comprehensive report that will be posted on our website (<http://varietytesting.tamu.edu/wheat>) once statewide harvest is complete.

Yield and performance data from these trials are used to generate the AgriLife Wheat “Pick’s List” for each region – a highly utilized list by producers across the state when selecting top-performing varieties to plant. At least three consecutive years of data is required in a specific region before varieties are considered for this list. While testing a variety three consecutive years is not required to enter these trials, it is highly encouraged, and necessary, if a variety is to be considered for the Pick’s List.

Both HRSW varieties and experimental lines pending release will be accepted up to *eight* entries per company. Additional entries may be requested and included as space allows. Please include experimental designations for newly named varieties previously tested as experimentals. Texas A&M AgriLife reserves the right to limit entry number to 50 entries per region. Three to four replications will be planted at each location in a randomized complete block design. Targeted plant dates are mid-December for all locations.

Varieties will be entered for all locations within the southern region for a fee of \$400 total. Locations will include Castroville, College Station, Uvalde, and Wharton.

Varieties that occupy greater than 5% of the wheat acreage in a growing region are included in tests in that region at no charge. Based on the 2019 Ag Statistics survey, which is conducted annually, ‘Expresso’ was the only spring variety reported above 5% in South Texas.

Data will be collected on yield, test weight and moisture at all locations and final yield reported on a standardized 13% moisture for all entries. Leaf and stripe rust notes will be taken at South Texas locations where rust pressure is most consistent. If taken, additional data will be supplied

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on other characteristics such as heading date, plant height, fall vigor and other disease or insect resistance if pressure is high and as resources are available.

Please complete the enclosed form and return by October 25, 2020. Seed must be treated with a fungicide and insecticide of your choice and the name of the treatment included in the space provided on the form. **Please send ten (10) lbs. of seed to the address specified on the test submission form** by November 8, 2020. Please call if you are unable to meet this deadline. **You will be invoiced later for the payment, which will be due no later than January 31, 2021.**

I appreciate your cooperation for this wheat performance test. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 979-845-4826 (Office), 406-579-5638 (Cell), or e-mail at fernando.guillen@tamu.edu.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fernando Guillen-Portal', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Fernando Guillen-Portal, Ph.D.
Statewide Small Grains Extension Specialist

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