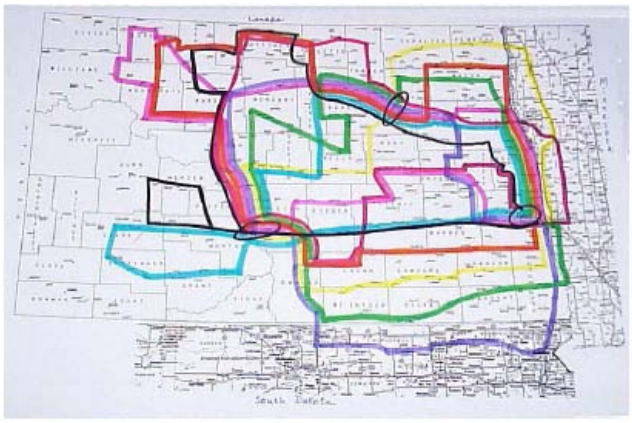
2009 Wheat Quality Council
Hard Spring Wheat & Durum Tour Completed

Summary by Ben Handcock, Executive Vice President



The Wheat Quality Council hard spring and durum tour was conducted July 27-30 in North Dakota plus parts of South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana. (Tour Map) There were 55 participants this year, and 34 of them were first-timers on this tour.

The 402 spring wheat fields surveyed averaged 46.2 bushels per acre, up 8.5 bushels from last year's 37.7 bushels. The 35 durum fields averaged 36.2 bushels, up from 23.7 bushels last year. We evaluated 21 hard winter fields and they averaged 51.3 bushels, up from 43 one year ago.

The average for all 458 field stops was 45.7 bushels per acre compared to 36 last year and the five year average of 35.3 bushels. (Tour Results)

Day One covered the southern half of North Dakota, southwestern Minnesota and northeast/north central South Dakota. Yields were good on all routes this year. The highest yielding field was estimated at 88 bushels and the lowest was 15.6, with a day one average of 45.9 bushels versus last year at 38.2 bushels. Tour members going into the far western areas reported the same kinds of yields as the cars elsewhere. This almost never happens, and western producers are finally getting a long-awaited fine crop.

Day Two covered northwest and north central North Dakota plus a small delegation toward the Montana border and beyond to look for additional durum fields. We did find more durum fields in the far northwest, but the durum acres appeared to be down wherever we went. The yields were impressive again as we moved along the routes. We had a high for the day of 74 bushels, a low of 22 with a day two average of 43.5 bushels. Last year these routes averaged 31.2 bushels. Keep in mind that we modified a couple of routes and went much farther northwest than we used to go.

Day Three concluded the tour by covering north central/north east North Dakota and north west/west central Minnesota. As is usually the case, this was the highest yielding area of the tour, but not by much. The day three average was estimated at 49.7 bushels, compared to 42.9 one year ago. Our high was 75.7 and our low was 25.8 bushels per acre.

This is the best potential crop I have witnessed since starting to do this tour in 1992. In fact, 1992 calculated at 44 bushels per acre, and that was our highest ever until this year. Again I emphasize the word "potential."

This is a tremendous crop with very little problems anyplace as far as disease or pests are concerned. The burning question is—"Will we get it all harvested before the short fall season sets in?"—A large portion of the crop is four to six weeks away. That approaches the mid September date in some cases. That may be just fine, but the days get very short by then, with harvesting possible for only a few hours a day from after noon until early evening. Producers say this has happened before, but it makes them nervous all the same.

We really saw little potential difference in this crop from East to West or North to South. I can't remember when that has been the case previously. I predict that we have probably underestimated this crop due to the number of berries in the spikelets. The formula we use is not set up to predict the three and four berries I saw in a lot of fields.

If we get all of this crop harvested, I believe the quality will be very good, with an obvious chance of lower than desired protein content. The industry would like 14 to 14.5 percent protein, but it most likely will be at least one percent less than that. Industry veterans said the large 1992 crop came in around 13 percent. It appears there could be pockets of higher protein, so I think this crop will probably be very manageable by the processors.

Once again our results are not official. The North Dakota Ag Statistics Service will publish official results next week. Watch for them and see how we compare. We have been very close for the past ten years or so. We are not as scientific as they are, we simply overwhelm them with the number of fields we visit, and our formula provided by NDSU has been working very well.

Thanks to all of you who came, drove cars or helped in any way to make this tour a success. The newcomers have told me they learned a great deal, had a lot of fun and would love to do it again. We look forward to 2010.

Please mark the Wheat Quality Council 2010 Annual Meeting dates on your calendar. It should be interesting evaluating all the new wheat lines grown under these conditions. The dates are February 16-18 at the Embassy Suites in Kansas City.

DAY 1

2009 SPRING WHEAT CROP TOUR

28-Jul-09

Route	Class	Est. 2009	Calc. 2009	Std Dev	Hi	Lo	#Fields	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Purple #1	HRS		45.5	8.8	58.0	31.0	11	49.4	37.5	25.0	41.7	44.3	40.1	26.4
	DUR													
	HRW		59.5				1	69.8						
Green #2	HRS	40.7	41.2	11.9	57.5	16.7	11	43.5	49.1	25.7	36.7	38.6	40.5	22.4
	DUR													
	HRW	37.0	38.9				4	39.5				39.1		
Yellow #3	HRS	45.0	44.8	10.5	66.0	30.0	14	44.6	44.0	38.3	36.6	49.2	42.0	24.2
	DUR													
	HRW	50.0	50.0				1	47.0						
Orange #4	HRS		39.7	8.1	56.3	26.4	13	43.2	33.5	38.3	42.7	37.9	50.2	28.6
	DUR													
	HRW								37.4					
Red #5	HRS	51.4	49.7	8.9	59.3	27.7	12	44.5	39.5	37.8	31.9	42.9	41.2	26.6
	DUR										29.2			
	HRW													
Pink #6	HRS	47.7	44.3	11.7	65.0	30.0	11	42.0	19.8	27.4	42.7	48.3	35.6	35.9
	DUR									17.4			51.0	
	HRW							54.0						
Blue #7	HRS	46.1	48.4	13.9	76.6	24.0	11	22.1	45.2	17.9	31.8	25.7	26.9	13.3
	DUR							19.4	36.7			25.4	23.0	
	HRW		51.4				2				21.4			
Black #8	HRS		45.1	15.8	81.0	24.0	11	17.5	28.2	29.3	29.7	26.4	27.5	29.8
	DUR									24.5	24.2	18.0		
	HRW		67.0				1	13.3	38.3				45.0	
Purple #9	HRS	No Route			0.0	0.0	0							
	DUR													
	HRW													
Green #10	HRS	49.6	49.2	13.0	69.0	29.0	9							35.5
	DUR													
	HRW	37.0	43.5				2							
Yellow #11	HRS		55.4	17.9	88.0	33.0	13	29.5	35.2			26.1		
	DUR													
	HRW		72.0				2	25.6						

Orange #12	HRS	No Route		####	0.0	0.0	0	41.1	31.5	35.9			23.9
	DUR							43.0					
	HRW							51.0					
Red #13	HRS	38.4	40.4	9.7	59.4	27.8	10					35.1	35.6
	DUR	24.0	23.8				1					17.2	
	HRW												
Pink #14	HRS	42.9	45.0	15.8	75.8	15.6	12	29.3	36.5			37.9	
	DUR											29.0	
	HRW	25.0					1	26.3					
Blue #15	HRS	39.0	45.9	8.9	67.0	32.0	14						
	DUR	43.5	44.0				2						
	HRW												
Black #16	HRS	46.1	42.9	16.8	69.5	22.4	12						
	DUR	56.0	54.6				2						
	HRW	50.0	60.4				1						

	EST.	**CALC.**	**SD**	**Flds**
Wt. Avg.	**42.5**	**45.9**	**13.0**	**184**
HRS	**44.5**	**45.6**	**12.8**	**164**
DUR	**44.6**	**44.2**	**20.1**	**5**
HRW		**50.0**		**15**

Weighted Averages

	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Wt. Avg.	38.2	36.2	31.1	36.4	37.4	36.9	27.1
HRS	37.6	36.2	31.2	36.8	37.8	37.5	27.2
DUR	27.4	36.7	28.5	26.7	20.5	26.8	10.7
HRW	45.9	37.9		21.4	38.5	45	
Fields HRS	129	136	106	100	118	125	134
Fields DUR	3	1	2	2	3	9	1
Fields HRW	14	5		1	3	1	
Total Fields	146	142	108	103	124	135	135

DAY 2 **2009 SPRING WHEAT CROP TOUR**

29-Jul-09

Route	Class	Est. 2009	Calc2009.	Std Dev	Hi	Lo	#Fields	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Purple #1	HRS	44.1	45.3	8.7	56.1	32.1	11	42.3	35.4	29.8	30.8	35.4	38.0	40.0
	DUR	37.8	39.6	13.4	49.0	30.1	2	25.0	28.0		35.2	44.0	47.3	24.0
	HRW	49.0	45.5				1							
Green #2	HRS	39.1	40.5	10.6	61.6	29.4	10	38.4	34.1	25.9	29.7	37.4	31.3	35.1
	DUR	42.6	44.6	23.7	61.3	27.8	2		25.0	15.1	17.7		30.4	
	HRW	45.0	51.3				1	47.9						
Yellow #3	HRS	44.7	46.0	9.0	58.3	27.2	11	44.4	39.9	31.7	41.4	36.4	38.8	28.3
	DUR										13.7		27.3	
	HRW	70.0	75.0				1							
Orange #4	HRS	45.7	45.4	11.9	71.5	27.7	11	29.3	34.3	35.2	33.8	34.6	23.8	25.6
	DUR	42.5	34.0	0.2	34.1	33.8	2	20.3	34.9	29.6	32.0	29.1	22.8	26.4
	HRW												40.5	
Red #5	HRS	47.0	44.6	10.8	70.0	26.0	13	38.6	39.6	28.2	30.8	36.9	29.1	35.6
	DUR	54.0	48.0				1	42.3		34.0	34.7	34.2	23.8	46.6
	HRW													
Pink #6	HRS	32.5	32.0	1.4	33.0	31.0	2	25.2	34.2	27.6	37.4	27.0	26.9	33.1
Modified	DUR	38.8	37.6	13.2	63.0	23.0	9	15.2	28.3	20.8	27.4	31.4	22.3	22.9
Durum	HRW							24.4	35.8					
Blue #7	HRS	44.5	46.6	12.3	74.2	31.0	11	33.1	36.2	30.0	31.4	33.9	35.8	28.7
	DUR	31.0	33.5	5.5	37.4	29.6	2			7.0	38.0		26.6	
	HRW	65.0	86.1				1							
Black #8	HRS	45.0	48.1	10.2	66.0	32.0	14	30.4	36.2	30.4	29.7	33.9	31.2	25.0
	DUR							24.9	22.9	20.3	27.4	39.0	31.8	21.6
	HRW										40.6			
Purple #9	HRS	No Route			0.0	0.0	0							
	DUR				0.0	0.0	0							
	HRW													
Green #10	HRS	41.8	41.6	11.0	61.0	25.5	15							26.4
	DUR													15.8
	HRW													
Yellow #11	HRS	42.6	46.7	9.2	67.2	33.7	13	34.1				36.1		
	DUR	37.0	30.5				1					13.4		
	HRW													

Orange #12	HRS	No Route			0.0	0.0	0	19.3	29.1	25.4			31.7
	DUR				0.0	0.0	0	25.7	29.4	28.5			25.4
	HRW									45.0			
Red #13	HRS	45.6	43.4	11.7	65.8	27.6	11					36.3	40.9
	DUR							21.5				32.3	18.9
	HRW	38.7	40.4				1						
Pink #14	HRS	27.0	27.0				1	32.7	26.6			29.6	
Modified	DUR	28.0	29.1	4.3	37.0	22.0	7	31.1	27.8			25.7	
Durum	HRW	30.0					1		32.3				
Blue #15	HRS	45.0	52.9	14.0	72.2	28.6	12	23.4					
	DUR							24.1					
	HRW												
Black #16	HRS	35.5	37.8	7.7	54.3	27.9	14						
	DUR	32.0	34.0	4.8	37.4	30.6	2	13.4					
	HRW												

	EST.	CALC.	SD	Flds
Wt. Avg.	**40.5**	**43.5**	**11.4**	**183**
HRS	**43.0**	**44.6**	**11.0**	**149**
DUR	**36.0**	**35.4**	**10.6**	**28**
HRW		**54.5**		**6**

Weighted Averages

	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Wt. Avg.	31.2	33.8	28.8	32	34.2	31.4	29.9
HRS	34.4	35.7	29.5	32.6	34.9	33.7	32
DUR	23.3	28.8	23.5	29.8	30.8	27.4	25.5
HRW	32.2	34.7	45	40.6		40.5	
Fields HRS	134	95	104	82	103	95	97
Fields DUR	54	37	17	25	22	56	45
Fields HRW	3	3	1	1		1	0
Total Fields	191	135	122	108	125	152	142

DAY 3 **2009 SPRING WHEAT CROP TOUR**

30-Jul-09

Route	Class	Est.2009	Calc. 2009	Std Dev	Hi	Lo	# Fields	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Purple #1	HRS DUR HRW	44.3	45.0	16.7	71.8	29.4	5	45.1	45.1	41.6 45.5	46.8	48.1	45.7 52.7	44.3
Green #2	HRS DUR HRW	45.9 25.6	46.8 24.3	9.7	56.5	26.1	9 1	42.1	42.1	39.2	35.5	51.3	38.8 35.2	36.7
Yellow #3	HRS DUR HRW	45.7	46.5	11.8	69.5	26.1	10	46.3	46.3	34.6	38.3	42.8	47.2 31.2	38.1 22.0
Orange #4	HRS DUR HRW	39.4	44.5	12.5	64.0	25.8	8	32.6	32.6	34.9		42.7 46.8	35.8 31.7	46.9
Red #5	HRS DUR HRW	57.5	59.3	10.3	73.3	40.8	9	52.5	52.5	43.9	36.6	50.7	38.9	37.3
Pink #6	HRS DUR HRW	53.9	54.3	12.8	70.0	36.0	8	45.0	45.0	32.2	37.1	42.2 18.6	45.2	35.9
Blue #7	HRS DUR HRW	54.8	57.8	6.7	64.2	46.5	5	40.5	40.5	39.3	35.0	41.5	36.7	40.7 29.7
Black #8	HRS DUR HRW	46.8	51.0	9.9	64.3	39.1	6	43.7	43.7	31.2	29.4	42.7	37.3	41.4
Purple #9	HRS DUR HRW	No Route			0.0	0.0	0							
Green #10	HRS DUR HRW	40.6	43.0	9.4	50.0	27.0	5							44.3 34.9
Yellow #11	HRS DUR HRW	48.6 25.0	53.2 28.1	10.2	75.7	39.6	13 1					41.6		
Orange #12	HRS DUR HRW	No Route			0.0	0.0	0							

Red #13	HRS DUR HRW	No Route			0.0	0.0	0					52.0 49.2	41.4
Pink #14	HRS DUR HRW	44.6	50.8	4.5	56.0	46.0	5	37.1	37.1			35.4	
Blue #15	HRS DUR HRW	45.0	49.4	2.4	52.8	47.4	4						
Black #16	HRS DUR HRW	37.0	39.7	2.3	41.3	38.0	2						

	EST.	**CALC.**	**SD**	**Flds**
Wt. Avg.	**47.0**	**49.7**	**11.6**	**91**
HRS	**47.4**	**50.2**	**11.2**	**89**
DUR	**25.3**	**26.2**		**2**
HRW				

	Weighted Averages						
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Wt. Avg.	42.9	42.6	37	37.1	44.5	41.8	39.9
HRS	43.1	42.6	36.7	37.1	44.8	41.8	40.3
DUR	32.8				32.7	42.1	28.9
HRW	34.3		45.5				
Fields HRS	83	55	62	66	84	88	79
Fields DUR	1	0	0	0	2	6	3
Fields HRW	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Total Fields	85	55	64	66	86	94	82

2009 Spring Wheat Crop Tour

Weighted Averages	Yield Potential	*Standard Deviation*	*Total Fields*
Total	45.7	0.0	458
HRS	46.2	0.0	402
DUR	36.2	0.0	35
HRW	51.3		21

July 28-30, 2009

Overall Weighted Tour Averages

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
HRS	36.4	31.3	32.5	30.5	36.4	34.9	32.0	37.6	38.8	35.5	31.7	37.3	37.7	46.2
DUR	29.7	27.7	26.8	23.2	26.6	28.3	25.4	28.6	29.8	29.6	23.3	29.0	23.7	36.2
HRW	65.0	39.6			46.3			42.8	38.5	31.0	45.3	36.7	43.0	51.3
All Wheat	34.8	30.4	30.8	28.4	34.2	33.5	31.1	35.9	38.1	34.9	31.3	36.3	36.0	45.7

Fields Surveyed

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
HRS	313	388	368	316	325	355	316	310	308	305	272	286	346	402
DUR	106	140	132	128	135	113	86	49	71	27	19	38	58	35
HRW	0	3	5	0	0	4	0	1	2	3	3	8	18	21
All	419	531	505	444	460	472	402	360	381	335	294	332	422	458

Tour Participants - Breakdown

Class	Number	Percent		
Government	15	27	Total =	55
University	2	4		
Media	4	7		
Grain	10	18		
Milling	16	29		
Baker	3	5		
Producer	4	7		
Other	1	2		