

California Wheat

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CWC Wheat Bulletin

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The Weekly Wheat Bulletin is designed to share quick and informal information about the state's wheat crop and disease conditions. Comments are advisory in nature and designed to give growers a "heads up" to be alert for similar conditions. Comments forwarded by Thursday morning of each week will be posted in the Bulletin for distribution Thursday evening. Archived copies of the Wheat Bulletin may be accessed on the California Wheat Commission website: www.californiawheat.org

For those of you that are new to our mailing list, the length of this bulletin will change from week to week. The amount of material is dependent on the contributions of our readers.

Comments

2.25.09 – “Wheat growth has responded to the recent rains and has made top dressing nitrogen a priority especially with more rains in the forecast. Where supplemental nitrogen is needed, a range of 30 to 50 units per acre is being applied. Weed spraying is just about complete with overall good results and clean fields. Disease symptoms remain low at this point.”

Mick Canevari, UCCE San Joaquin.

2.25.09 – “The week or ten days of cooler weather was just what the crop needed. I think that it really helped the wheat stool out. Now with the warmer weather the wheat is starting to use some water and

grow. I am putting the third water on some fields and running small amounts of fertilizer with the water as recommended by my agronomist. At this time I am not seeing any problems and expect a good crop with the stands that I have, if the weather continues to cooperate that is.” *Roy Motter, Grower, Imperial County*

Other

San Joaquin County UCCE Director Mick Canevari, has passed on their newsletter addressing low water strategies for several crops including wheat. Here is the website to San Joaquin County's newsletter.

http://cesanjoaquin.ucdavis.edu/newsletterfiles/Field_Notes_Newsletter16371.pdf

The following was released today from the National Association of Wheat Growers

76% of Wheat Growers Approve Biotech Petition

From Commodity Classic – More than three-quarters of wheat growers responding to a recent National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) survey approved a petition supporting the commercialization of biotechnology in wheat.

The survey was commissioned by NAWG as a project of the NAWG Foundation to measure and document the level of support of biotech trait commercialization among wheat growers.

Anecdotal evidence has long suggested many wheat producers would like biotech

traits in their arsenal, and national wheat organizations support biotech commercialization. However, private technology providers need to be assured of ground-level support for their efforts before undertaking the decade-long, multimillion-dollar path toward commercialization of a trait.

“Until now, there has only been speculation about the breadth of grower support for biotechnology in wheat,” said NAWG CEO Daren Coppock. “This petition was designed to gather those answers from across our wheat producing areas, and now we have an objective and clear answer.”

To date, the survey has enjoyed a 32 percent response rate, with approval rates similar across states and farm sizes. The survey was mailed in January and February to about 21,000 producers with more than 500 acres of wheat and 1,000 acres in total production.

More information about the petition and survey is available online at www.wheatworld.org/biotech. Items posted there include the full petition language, an expanded Q and A about the effort and numerical break-outs of results by state and farm size.

NAWG leaders have scheduled a media availability on the biotech survey for Thursday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. local time at the Wheat Industry Booth (#806) at the Commodity Classic trade show. Additional media inquiries may be directed toward Melissa George Kessler at mkessler@wheatworld.org

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