2012 Wheat Variety Trials

Dr. Calvin Trostle, Extension Agronomist–Lubbock, has put together a report over the results of the wheat variety trials conducted in 2012 across the Texas High Plains and New Mexico. The entire report can be found at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center – Lubbock website, http://Lubbock.tamu.edu. The variety trials by Dr. Brent Bean, Dr. Jackie Rudd and Mr. Rex Kirksey were conducted at six locations (Bushland, Clovis, Dalhart, Plainview, Etter, and Perryton) under fully irrigated or partially irrigated conditions. Trials were also conducted under dryland conditions at Bushland, Groom and Perryton. In this report Dr. Trostle has not only provided results for 2012, he has summarized variety performance over multi-years (4, 3, and 2 years) where data for a variety is available. If there is a minimum of three years of data across several locations, variety comparisons were made to identify the top 25% yielding performers. These varieties become designated as top “Picks” for their consistent high yields across a range of conditions and their disease and insect protection package.

Dr. Trostle writes “Varieties become top Picks after reviewing their performance at multiple locations (emphasizing consistency in yield in the top 25% at each location) over a minimum of three years. Varietal Picks are not exclusively top yielding but risk management considerations will also enable some slightly lower yielding varieties to become Picks due strong disease tolerance, standability, etc.”

The varieties making the top “Picks” are shown in the attached table. For specific comments about a variety please refer to the completed report.

Moth Activity

Southwestern corn borer moth activity continues to be the moth of concern, particularly, in Dallam, Deaf Smith, Hartley, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Parmer, and Sherman counties (See Table on page 2). It is interesting that moth numbers are continuing to increase some field locations in a county, while numbers have already peaked and are decreasing at a different field locations in the county. For example, note the difference in moth activity at trap sites 2 & 4 compared to trap sites 1& 3 in Deaf Smith County, and between trap site 1 vs trap site 2 in Parmer County. Also, note that I have included moth trap captures by Mr. John Reznik in 2 locations in Moore County. I appreciate him sharing his trapping data. It provides additional information about the moth flight of SWCB in Moore County.

Moth Trap Catches continued page 2
The graph on this page shows that Western bean cutworm (WBC) moth activity is tapering off across the High Plains. Except for a few counties, the WBC moth numbers were not exceptionally high. But, moths have been present for the past 10 weeks. Dallam, Hartley, and Sherman counties had the heaviest concentration of WBC moths while Moore, Hutchinson, and Hansford counties consistently had WBC moths during the past 10 weeks.