

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

4.1.09 – “I expect to see some frost damage when cold temperatures hit a couple weeks ago. With warm temperatures many wheat and triticale fields were in the boot to heading stages. Several wheat fields are being harvested for silage in the boot through early heading stage.

Wheat yields will be negatively affected in many areas being irrigated with poor quality well water. Aphids are showing up in most fields as usual. So far we have not seen stripe rust showing up. I expect that we have another year like last year to skate by without having to apply fungicides because of warm, dry temperatures and no rain. This is a good time to water run nitrogen to maintain protein on wheat for grain.”
Steve Wright, Farm Advisor Tulare/Kings Counties

4.1.09 – “Wheat looks good in the Fresno area. Nitrogen will need to be put on during the upcoming flowering or anthesis stage. Flour mills will want a high protein this year due to the fact they got lower proteins last year. The discount schedule below a 12% protein could be severe. Having your crop adviser or PCA timing your nitrogen applications will be crucial. With the price of natural gas going down the price for fertilizer should also keep coming down.” *Jason Nearn, Penny-Newman Grain Co.*

4.2.09 - “I have received a number of calls from growers wondering if they have stripe rust in their field. In every circumstance, it turned out to be something else. Typically the symptoms they were seeing were from salt burn, herbicide drift, or nutrient deficiency. I have noticed some adult plant resistance in some awnless forage wheat, but no occurrences yet of the disease. The frost damage on silage wheat on the east side of the central San Joaquin Valley is significant and may be over 25% in some early planted fields. Aphid pressure is increasing and many grain and forage growers are spraying at this time. Fertilizer applications continue, and water is still tight.” *Geoff Schulz, Penny-Newman Grain Company, Fresno CA*

Attached is an article sent by Farm Advisor Steve Wright on nitrogen fertility. For those receiving this by fax you will be able to see it on our website at www.californiawheat.org under the Wheat Bulletin heading.

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