

Feature Story



How to be elite with wheat

Steps for improving a wheat grower's profitability

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC, December 7, 2017 — Recently, BASF sponsored an event focused solely on wheat production, where attendees were able to learn from growers and industry professionals on how to contribute to the profitability of their operation. While there were plenty of useful takeaways for wheat growers, there were four insights that stood out as key considerations for 2018 planning.

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>> **Optimizing wheat crop productivity starts with testing and protecting seed.** Seed establishment sets the stage for the rest of the season, so it's important to test seeds and use a premium seed treatment to prevent any diseases. Stamina® F4 Cereals fungicide protects wheat seed through added systemicity, while delivering plant health benefits such as increased cold tolerance and vigor, ultimately increasing yield potential.

>> **Pay attention to how nutrients interact with the soil.** In the Pacific Northwest, phosphorus and zinc are two essential plant nutrients that growers will want to work into their soil management plan, especially in more acidic soil conditions. Determining the right nutrients for a grower's soil is critical for getting the best ROI on a cereal crop.

>> **Understanding wheat growth stages leads to better timed applications of inputs.** Wheat will respond best to inputs and management practices at certain stages of plant development. The tillering stage is particularly important for wheat yield, as it is a critical time for weed control. In order for the crop to compete with weeds at this early stage, herbicides should be applied. Beyond® herbicide, as a part of the Clearfield® Production System, helps growers control key grasses and broadleaf weeds early.

>> **An integrated approach is the best defense against resistant weeds.** To help keep their fields clean, growers should follow agronomic practices such as selecting clean seeds, choosing competitive crop varieties to help compete with weeds and using practices that don't allow weeds to adapt, such as crop rotation.

BASF's commitment to wheat growers includes innovations that help drive yields — and ultimately profitability — for growers. To learn more about the products and information BASF offers wheat growers, visit www.agproducts.basf.com.

Always read and follow label directions.

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