

## LEMHI 62 SOFT WHITE SPRING WHEAT

Lemhi 62, a soft white spring wheat, was developed co-operatively by the Idaho Agricultural Experimental Station and Agricultural Research service, USDA, at Aberdeen, Idaho. The parentage is Kenya x Lemhi 6. Lemhi 62 is a sister line to Lemhi 53 but possesses the SR9 gene for resistance to stem rust, rather than the SR6 gene. Lemhi 62 has been tested under southern Alberta conditions for the past ten years.

Lemhi 62 is very similar to Lemhi 53. However, it differs slightly in stem rust resistance and has given good resistance to the stem rust races prevalent in southern Alberta. Like Lemhi 53, it is susceptible to leaf rust and stripe rust. Over the past ten years it has yielded slightly better than Lemhi 53. In milling and baking quality Lemhi 62 is very similar to Lemhi 53 and superior to Kenhi.

It is expected Lemhi 62 will readily replace Lemhi 53 in Canada.

Plant characteristics : —

Spike —	Oblong, dense, awnless; chaff white and smooth; shoulders mid-wide, oblique.
Kernels —	White, soft, short to mid-long.
Straw —	Hollow, mid-long, mid-strong, white.
Maturity —	Medium early.
Disease reaction —	Moderately resistant to stem rust; susceptible to leaf rust and stripe rust.
Shattering —	Moderately resistant.
Lodging —	Moderately resistant.
Quality —	Equal to Lemhi and Lemhi 53. Eligible for Soft White Spring Wheat grades.

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## New White Wheat Is Resistant to Stripe Rust

■ A new stripe rust-resistant soft white spring wheat has been developed by scientists at the University of Idaho's Aberdeen branch agricultural experiment station.

The new variety, named Lemhi 66, was developed cooperatively by the Idaho experiment station and the crops research division, USDA Agricultural Research Service. Dr. Donald W. Sunderman, USDA agronomist at Aberdeen, was in charge of the work.

Lemhi 66 closely resembles Lemhi 53, one of its parents and the variety it is expected to replace in the irrigated areas of southern Idaho, reports Dr. R. D. Ensign, associate director of the Idaho agricultural experiment station.

Sunderman's test show Lemhi 66 is a strong-yielding, beardless wheat, tall but moderately resistant to lodging. Milling and baking qualities are good.

Its one great advantage over the old Lemhi is resistance to stripe rust. When stripe rust infection is as widespread as it was in the 1962-64 period, this advantage can mean a difference of 50 per cent of yield, Ensign adds.

**LEMHI 66** was approved for release by the Idaho Foundation Seed Committee at its meeting this winter. About 1,400 bushels of seed will be distributed to certified seed growers this spring, so seed supplies will be fairly adequate for spring 1967.

Lemhi 66 is a tailor-made answer to the wheatgrowers' demand for a rust-resistant pastry wheat, Ensign points out. Although the original cross was made only in 1961, cooperation of the Wheat Commission and other agencies helped speed its development. The Commission made a special research grant to aid the project.

This is the second rust-resistant wheat variety developed in Idaho and released in the past year, Ensign noted. A hard red winter wheat, Itana-65, was approved for release in time for seeding last fall.

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