

## STODDARD SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT

Botanical and objective description: Stoddard, Triticum aestivum L. em. Thell., is a soft red winter wheat variety. It is early in maturity, medium in height, and has strong white straw. Awnlets are mainly at the tips, white in color, and vary from 1-25 mm. long. Glumes are glabrous, white, and midlong. Kernels are red, midlong and soft. Stoddard is similar to Stadler but is about 5 cm. shorter in plant height, has stronger straw, is more resistant to leaf rust and mildew and has greater yield potential under Missouri growing conditions. Maturity, winter-hardiness and milling and baking quality are similar to that of Stadler.

Area of adaptation and primary use: Stoddard is well adapted to Missouri, but appears to have a more narrow range of adaptation than Arthur, as indicated by higher yields of Stoddard than Arthur in Missouri but a lower yield over the area in which the Eastern Soft Wheat Nursery is grown. Tests of the Soft Wheat Quality Laboratory indicate good combined soft wheat milling and baking quality when grown under normal environmental conditions in Missouri. Some of the acreage will be grazed, but most will be cut for grain and placed on the market as a soft red winter wheat.

Information to assist field inspectors: Identifying plant characteristics at maturity would be the medium tall, white straw and awnletted spikes. Spikes will be middense and white with white awnlets, mainly toward the top of the heads, that vary from 1-25 mm. in length. Maturity, winterhardiness and milling and baking quality are similar to that of the Stadler variety. Plant height may vary up to 3 cm. within the population, but Stoddard will average about 5 cm. shorter than Stadler. Grain yields in Missouri trials over the past 5 years have averaged about 10 percent higher than Stadler. During the same period, lodging was approximately half and leaf rust and mildew approximately one fourth that of Stadler. Plant color at the boot stage as well as leaf characteristics would be very similar to that of Stadler.

Seed classes: Seed production will be limited to three generations from Breeders seed--Foundation, Registered, and Certified seed. Breeders seed will be maintained by the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbia, Missouri.

Availability of seed: Foundation seed was offered for sale in September, 1973.