

**BLUEBOY YIELDS WELL IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS TESTS**

Blueboy, a soft wheat variety recently introduced from the southeastern United States, has stirred the interest of southern Illinois wheat farmers, reports Dr. W. O. Scott, University of Illinois Extension agronomist.

In several variety tests, Blueboy out-yielded all other varieties — by as much as 10 to 20 bushels per acre at some locations.

Blueboy has strong straw, but in some ways the variety is less desirable than others. It matures from 7 to 8 days later than Monon and Benhur and is 3 to 4 pounds lighter in test weight. Blueboy is susceptible to Hessian fly and should not be planted before the "fly-free date." The variety is susceptible to both leaf and stem rust. Because of its late maturity, the rusts may be a serious drawback in some years, Dr. Scott warns.

Blueboy has been tested for only one year in Illinois—not enough time to determine the variety's winter-hardiness or its performance relative to varieties of known adaptation and performance.

Varieties bred for the southeastern United States are usually less winter hardy than those developed for the Cornbelt. Blueboy came through the winter of 1968-69 satisfactorily. But, according to Dr. Scott, experienced wheat growers do not consider the 1968-69 winter a very severe test of hardiness.

The good characteristics of the variety are its yielding ability and straw strength. Blueboy's main disadvantages are its low test weight, late maturity and possible lack of winter-hardiness.

Dr. Scott suggests trying the variety on a small acreage until more can be learned about its performance under Illinois conditions.

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**SUMMARY 1969 WINTER WHEAT VARIETY TRIALS  
EXTREME SOUTHERN ILLINOIS  
Dale E. Millis - Area Agronomist**

Yields <sup>1</sup> /bu/acre			Test Weight lbs/bu		
Dixon Springs	Belleville <sup>2</sup>	Av.	Dixon Springs	Belleville	Av.

**Soft Wheat Varieties**

Blueboy	69.9	58.6	64.3	53.1	52.8	53.0
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