

Selection Omar x 178383. In August an announcement was received from Dr. Wilson Foote that Oregon State University was giving careful consideration to Selection 172, C.Y. 13740 for possible release next fall. Ten bushels of Foundation seed were made available from Oregon to Washington upon the latter's indication of interest in the possible joint release of this selection next year. Four and one-half acres have already been seeded to this selection to produce Registered seed next year -- if the variety is released. Responsibility for clearing on milling quality remains with Oregon State University. Indication from Idaho was that they were not interested in possible joint release of this selection next year.

Vogel's Selection 4 from Omar x semi-dwarf is being held for further consideration; but chances are it will never be released. It has been exceeded only by Gaines in yields; but Vogel has Selection 1934-1 club that has better milling quality but otherwise no notable improvements over Selection 4. It will be given further consideration. Presently, Maguire has some 20 bushels of Breeder's seed of Selection 4. It is very shrivelled and will not likely clean up to more than about 10 bushels. This amount is certainly all we need to hold against existing possibility of release. The fact that Selection 4 has a test weight of about 2 to 4 pounds less than Gaines and yields some 6 to 12 bushels less does not make it very promising. It is also very susceptible to powder mildew and flag smut and is not too satisfactory for early seeding since it tends to lodge and slow in emergence. The prospects of its receiving sizeable acceptance by farmers in view of the great superiority of Gaines are rather slim. Unless there is a sizeable premium on club type wheat, it is not likely that any existing prospective club will prosper too greatly in the foreseeable future.