

Solano
Hard Red Spring Wheat

Solano (Experimental designation DA900-229) is a hard red spring wheat variety developed by Westbred, LLC. Solano originated from the cross DA993-191/Express using a modified pedigree breeding system. Solano has been tested in and is adapted to the irrigated areas of the Sacramento Valley and Delta areas of California. It has acceptable milling quality, good mixing characteristics and good baking quality. The quality is equal to the variety Express.

Solano is a day length insensitive spring wheat. The average height is 89 cm which is 8 cm shorter than Express. Solano has green leaves at the boot stage. The flag leaf is erect, twisted with waxy bloom. The auricles are white. Stems are white, hollow, with pubescence present on the last rachis internode. The spike is awned, lax, and white with an oblong shape. The awns are white and midlong. The spikes are inclined at maturity. The glumes are white, long, mid-wide and have elevated shoulders. The beaks are mid-wide, medium long and acuminate. Solano has long midwide and elliptical seed. The brushes are large, medium long and are not collared. The seed crease is shallow and narrow. The cheeks are rounded and the germ is midsize. Solano most resembles Express but differs in that Solano has elevated glume shoulders while Express has oblique glume shoulders. Solano has green leaves at booting while Express has blue-green leaves.

Solano has a tall variant that is 12 cm to 24 cm taller which occurs at a frequency of up to 0.1%. A white-seed variant occurs at a frequency of up to 0.1%. An awnless variant occurs at a frequency of up to 0.1%.

Solano was tolerant to the prevalent races of stripe rust found in California until 2004 but is now susceptible to at least one of the new races in 2005. Solano is tolerant to *Septoria tritici*. No data has been collected on insect susceptibility. Westbred, LLC will maintain breeder seed by planting spike rows as needed. The certified seed classes will be Foundation, Registered and Certified. Certified seed will be available in the fall of 2006. Certified acreage is not to be published by AOSCA and certifying agencies. Application for Plant Variety Protection will be made in 2006 and the "Certification Option" will not be elected.