

**LOUISIANA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
SMALL GRAIN PERFORMANCE TRIALS
PROCEDURES, POLICIES AND PROTOCOL
REVISED AUGUST 2008**

POLICIES:

1. The state will be divided into two regions for wheat and oat trials. The northern half of the state shall include trials at Alexandria, Bossier City, St .Joseph, and Winnsboro. The southern half shall include trials at Baton Rouge, Crowley, and Jeanerette. Entries must be tested in both regions initially, and flat fee will be charged for all entries from commercial companies, whether tested in a single region or statewide.
2. The LAES Research Summary on small grain performance will be published in a timely manner each summer to assist with decision making for the following season.. A summary table will be published for each location with multi-year yield data where possible. Information on each location will include growing conditions, cultural practices, disease occurrence, and agronomic performance. Across-region and across-year summary tables will also be published. These will be placed on a web page as preliminary data as soon as completed.

GENERAL PURPOSE OF TRIALS: Members of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station annually conduct performance trials on the following crops: corn, cotton, oats, sorghum, soybeans, summer and winter forages, and wheat. Results from these trials are published to provide performance information to producers seed dealers, originators of the entries, and other interested concerns. Inclusion of an entry in a performance trial does not constitute an endorsement of that variety by the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station (LAES).

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES: All companies/concerns are eligible to submit entries for the performance trials, providing they are the legal owner or distributor of the variety. All submissions should be marketed or under consideration for marketing in Louisiana. The specific coordinator of the trial, date of submission, seed required, and other details are contained in the following material. Submissions should be listed in order of priority. Seed must be received by the date listed for the crop, and can not be sent COD. All freight charges must be prepaid. In the event that there are more submissions than can be handled in a trial, the coordinator will determine which submissions to omit.

DISCLAIMER: After the trials have been planted and a satisfactory stand established, you will be billed for the varieties you submitted. Every effort will be made to conduct the trials as planned, including recording appropriate notes, harvesting, and publishing the results. In the event that weather patterns or other environmental factors, extreme incidence of disease or insect pressure, or other unavoidable factors preclude the completion of the trials, the LAES will not refund the fees submitted. Scientists of the LAES will act in good faith to conduct the trials in a professional manner and provide unbiased, reliable results to all concerns.

GENERAL PROTOCOL:

1. All seed will be packaged by plot in labeled envelopes and distributed by the coordinator (Steve Harrison).
2. Randomized field books will be prepared and distributed by the coordinator along with an Excel file version of the field book.

3. The site cooperator will not change the randomizations, plot assignments, or plot order of the tests and will send all data on the Excel file to the coordinator. The site cooperator can arrange the field layout of the plots in any way that matches the space and equipment available for planting, keeping in mind that the blocks (reps) should correspond to variation in the field in order to minimize error variance. For example, a replication may be 1 range x 30 plots, 2 x 15, 3 x 10, 5 x 6, etc. A field map will be sent to the coordinator after planting.
4. The coordinator will contact each site cooperator as soon as seed are available. It is the joint responsibility of the coordinator and the cooperator to see that the seed arrive at the test site and are planted in a timely manner.

Planting, Cultural Practices, and Note-taking, and Harvest:

1. All aspects of plot maintenance are the responsibility of the cooperator, including planting, harvest, routine data collection, and application of fertilizers and chemicals (herbicides, insecticides).
2. All site information will be recorded on the site information sheet provided by the coordinator. This information should also be entered as text in front of the data in ASCII data files sent to the coordinator.
3. Preplant and post-emergence herbicides shall be used as needed to control annual ryegrass and other weed problems of wheat and oats.
4. Preplant fertilization will be in accordance with soil test results, or knowledge of previous crop history and soil fertility.
5. Spring nitrogen topdressing rate will be at the discretion of the cooperator, based on crop history, soil types, and previous experience.
6. Plots will be harvested as soon as possible after physiological maturity and drydown.
7. The cooperator is responsible for monitoring of the plots and taking routine notes.
8. The coordinator will visit the test sites at least once and preferably more frequently during the spring to observe the condition of the tests and take notes on diseases and general conditions of the trials.
9. Fungicides will not be routinely applied to the standard wheat and oat variety trials. Disease resistance is a very important component of variety performance in Louisiana.
10. Disease data will be rated by Boyd Padgett, Steve Harrison, Pat Colyer, or Clayton Hollier. The cooperator is responsible for notifying Steve that disease notes need to be taken. The cooperator should consider growth stage and severity of the disease when making this decision.
11. The cooperator will send all data (proofed) to the coordinator in a timely manner using prescribed formats. Every effort should be made to get all data to the coordinator within 10 days of harvest (no later than June 15) if possible.
12. It is the responsibility of the coordinator to see that all statistical analyses are accurate and that the data is published in a timely manner. Cooperators and seedsmen will be given the opportunity to review the data prior to it's release as preliminary data will be released to participating seedsmen after it has been proofed by the cooperators, but prior to publication

Format for Data Lines in Excel File

When†	Data Category	Column Heading	Example	Scale	
Yield	Yield at 13% moist	BUPA	45.8	bu/acre	
2 reps, TWT	Test Weight	TWT	56.8	lbs per bushel	
2 reps, HDAY	Heading Day ^{6b}	HDAY	95	day of year	
2 reps	Plant Height ^{8b}	HT	37	inches	
2 reps if occurs	Lodging ^{9b}	LOD	3	0-9	
2 reps	Leaf Rust ^{10a}	LFRUST	60	%	
2 reps if occurs,	Stripe Rust ^{11a}	STRIPE	35	%	
2 reps if occurs,	Septoria ^{12a}	SEPT	6	0-9	
2 reps if occurs,	Bacteria ^{13a}	BACT	4	0-9	
2 reps or specific	Powdery Mildew ^{14a}	PM	3	0-9	
2 reps or specific	Barley Yellow	BYDV	4	0-9	
2 reps if occurs	Stem Rust ^{16a}	STRUST	6	0-9	
2 reps if occurs	Freeze Damage ^{17b}	FRZ	5	0-9	
2 reps or specific	Bird Damage ^{18b}	BRD	15	%	

† all = every line of data; 2 reps means ratings on only 2 reps are needed; /plot = only given plots if sporadic.

a = normally taken by Harrison/Padgett/Colyer; b = taken by cooperator