

**USDA-ARS/
U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative
FY05 Final Performance Report (approx. May 05 – April 06)
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Cover Page

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Fiscal Year:	2005
FY05 ARS Agreement ID:	59-0790-4-125
Agreement Title:	Uniform Trial to Evaluate Efficacy of Fungicides and Biologicals Against Scab.
FY05 ARS Award Amount:	\$ 13,268

USWBSI Individual Project(s)

USWBSI Research Area*	Project Title	ARS Adjusted Award Amount
CBC	Uniform Trial to Evaluate Efficacy of Fungicides and Biologicals Against Scab.	\$ 13,268
	Total Award Amount	\$ 13,268

Principal Investigator

Date

* BIO – Biotechnology
CBC – Chemical & Biological Control
EDM – Epidemiology & Disease Management
FSTU – Food Safety, Toxicology, & Utilization
GIE – Germplasm Introduction & Enhancement
VDUN – Variety Development & Uniform Nurseries

Project 1: *Uniform Trial to Evaluate Efficacy of Fungicides and Biologicals Against Scab.*

1. What major problem or issue is being resolved and how are you resolving it?

Scab or Fusarium head blight (FHB) continues to be a problem on soft red winter wheat grown in Missouri. Although a state wide epidemic has not occurred for several years, each year there are areas within the state that have weather conditions favorable for disease development as the winter wheat crop is flowering. Producers in these areas see a direct impact from yield reduction and may see an indirect impact due to DON levels or quality issues when the grain is marketed. High levels of FHB in the crop or of DON in the grain also cause significant problems for elevators accepting the grain and processors trying to use the grain. One management option would be the use of fungicides or biological control agents to minimize FHB infection. The Uniform Scab Fungicide Trial was set up to identify safe fungicides that are effective against FHB. A second uniform trial to evaluate the efficacy of biological control agents against FHB has also been established. Given sets of fungicides and biological control agents are evaluated for consistency of performance across a wide range of wheat classes and varieties, barley classes and environments. For the fungicide portion of the uniform trial, the emphasis is on new fungicide chemistries, new combinations of products, more precise application timing and application techniques. In the biologicals portion of the uniform trial, the emphasis has shifted to biologicals available in formulations that would be practical for on-farm use. The identification of safe fungicides or the development of safe, easy to use biological control agents which effectively control FHB would benefit producers, agribusinesses and ultimately consumers.

The set of fungicides and biological control agents for the Uniform Scab Trials were evaluated on two soft red winter wheat varieties in Missouri during the 2005-2006 season. The field work for this trial has just been completed. Samples have been submitted for DON analysis and data is being analyzed for the annual trial report.

**2. List the most important accomplishment and its impact (how is it being used?).
Complete all three sections (repeat sections for each major accomplishment):**

Accomplishment:

The Uniform Trials to evaluate efficacy of fungicides and biological control agents against FHB were conducted in Missouri during the 2005-2006 season. Planting went well and the stands were good both last fall and this spring. Weather conditions during flowering were conducive to the development of FHB. Fungicide treatments were applied at the appropriate timings. Biological control agents were applied under ideal conditions for growth of the biological control agents and for development of FHB. This year all of the biologicals were supplied in sufficient quantity so no additional increase of biological inoculum was necessary. This was a significant improvement over past years in which inoculum had to be increased prior to application. Furthermore all of the biological control agents were applied with ease; the formulations didn't clog spray nozzles or cause any other application problems.

Unfortunately, weather conditions from flowering on were not favorable for the development of FHB. Both incidence and severity of FHB were low when those ratings were taken in the field. Scabby kernel counts are being done right now but initial results show low levels of scabby kernels in this year's trial. Thus, trial results from Missouri are not likely to provide significant differences between treatments in either the Uniform Fungicide or Biological Trials for 2006. But the strength of the Uniform Fungicide and Biological Trials has been and continues to be in the replication of the same sets of treatments across a number of locations. Although results in one location in a given year may not be statistically significant, across all locations there should be significant results that provide valuable information for all wheat and barley producing areas of the U. S.

Impact:

The purpose of the Uniform Fungicide Trial and the Uniform Biological Control Agent Trial is to provide growers with data on the efficacy of these materials that will help them in making management decisions related to FHB. Compilation of uniform trial data from all locations provides valuable information on which fungicides or biological control agents reduce the incidence and/or severity of FHB, which may impact the DON levels in harvested grain and application timings and techniques that provide the best results.

As a result of that accomplishment, what does your particular clientele, the scientific community, and agriculture as a whole have now that they didn't have before?:

The uniform trial data is compiled across all locations participating in the trials and this information is presented at the National Scab Forum, is published in the National Scab Forum proceedings and is available through the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative web site. Growers and agribusiness personnel in Missouri as well as academic and agricultural professionals throughout the United States have access to this information.

Include below a list of the publications, presentations, peer-reviewed articles, and non-peer reviewed articles written about your work that resulted from all of the projects included in the grant. Please reference each item using an accepted journal format. If you need more space, continue the list on the next page.

Presentations:

Crop Injury Diagnostic Clinic, Field Crop Disease Session, July 2005, Columbia, MO

Crop Management Conference, Field Crop Disease Update, December 2005, Columbia, MO

Pesticide Applicator Training Recertification Sessions, Field Crop Disease Update, January 2006, multiple locations throughout Missouri

Wheat Diseases, MFA Training, February 2006, Columbia, MO

Wheat Tour, June 2006, Lamar, MO

Teleconference phone call with Extension field staff during the spring and summer of 2006

Newsletter articles and news releases during spring of 2006

Missouri data was also submitted to appropriate coordinators for inclusion in the reports for the Uniform Fungicide Trials and the Uniform Biologicals Trial