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Research Category: VDHR-NWW

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Project Title: Coordinated Evaluation and Utilization of Marker Assisted Selection.

PROJECT 4 ABSTRACT

(1 Page Limit)

The objectives of this project are to 1) evaluate the effectiveness of use of Fusarium head blight (FHB)-resistance QTL in the Northern Winter Wheat (NWW) breeding programs through marker assisted selection (MAS); 2) quantify the effects of these QTL in reducing FHB and DON; and 3) measure their impact on other key traits such as yield and milling and baking quality. Approximately 700-1000 partially inbred lines from crosses with an array of parents homozygous for the resistance alleles at Fhb1 and other QTL have been planted in breeding nurseries in KY, MO, IN, IL, MI, OH and NY. These lines will be genotyped at Fhb1 and other resistance QTL at the USDA-ARS *Eastern Regional Small Grains* Genotyping Lab, Raleigh, NC. This material will be concurrently phenotyped for FHB traits, and in some cases yield and other agronomic traits in the individual Co-PI's scab and yield nurseries. Based on genotypic and phenotypic data, a number of pairs of sister lines, homozygous for resistance and susceptibility alleles at each QTL will be identified in each breeding program. Seed of these lines was first distributed to Co-PIs for planting in the fall 2010 and FHB phenotyping, yield testing and milling and baking quality analysis. Outputs will include information on the effect of genetic background on QTL expression, sharing of lines to use as parents, and possible identification of lines worthy of joint germplasm and/or cultivar release.