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**Hard Red  
Spring Wheat**  
(*Triticum aestivum* L.)

**Description**

- Wheat is an annual cereal grain.
- 11,000 to 18,000 seeds per pound
- 60 pounds per bushel

**Management considerations**

- Avoid planting wheat on fields that were planted in corn the previous year. Corn trash can harbor the Fusarium fungus which can cause Scab. If you must plant wheat on corn ground, work the soil as black as possible and plan on spraying a fungicide.

**Optimum Planting Dates**

- Plant as soon as you can prepare a good seedbed (last week of March is fine).
- After April 21 in southern MN, you give up 1% of yield for each day of delay.

**Seeding Recommendations**

- In order to achieve a recommended plant population of about 1.2 million to 1.3 million plants per acre, **plant about 120 to 140 lbs. per acre.**
- Good seed-soil contact and adequate moisture is essential when the grain is seeded. Prepare a firm seedbed for good germination and seedling development. Dry, loose soil makes for an unsatisfactory seedbed.
- **Drill about 1 to 2 inches deep**, depending on soil moisture and soil texture. A grain drill with press wheels is the best because it places the seed at a uniform depth and gives good soil-seed contact. Broadcasting wastes seed and often results in uneven stands.

**Fertilization** *(Please contact your fertilizer professional for your specific needs):*

- Make sure there is 75 pounds of available Nitrogen as well as good levels of phosphorus and potassium. Both liquid and granular fertilizers work well.
- Better standing varieties (i.e., Glenn) can handle more N.
- For best yields broadcast 60-20-20 at seeding.
- Using an air drill you can put on 20-10-10 with the seed then spray on 15 – 18 gallons of 28% before emergence. (Don't spray 28% on growing wheat or it will burn it badly. Using a drip or other system allows you to apply 28% post-emergence.)

**Weed and Disease Control** *(This is not intended as a recommendation or endorsement of any specific product but as a list of possible controls. Please contact your chemical professional for your specific needs and always read and follow label directions):*

- Seeding as early as possible in the growing season enables the cool season small grain crop to compete effectively with weeds, especially with warm season annual grasses. Research has shown that herbicides generally are not needed for green and yellow foxtail control in small grains if the small grain is well established before the foxtail emerges.
- Grass Control (foxtail): Puma
- Broadleaf Control: Bromite Plus works well, 2,4-D or MCPA can also be used.
- It may be possible to spot treat areas in the field rather than the entire field.
- Fungicides: Consider applying 4 oz. of Headline (or another fungicide) when the wheat is at the 3 to four leaf stage. Check with your chemical advisor for rates and timing. A second application may be needed in wet years. T-22 is a seed-applied bio-fungicide approved for wheat that provides season long protection from Pythium, Rhizoctonia, and Fusarium fungi (OMRI listed).