No-till HRS Wheat Response to Nitrogen Application Methods, Juanita, 2008

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he objective of this study was to compare HRS wheat performance with nitrogen (N) applied as anhydrous ammonia through an Exactrix™ system compared to surface application of ammonium nitrate (AN). An Exactrix system delivers anhydrous ammonia through high-pressure. The field study was conducted by the NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center in cooperation with Kevin Black in a commercial wheat field near Juanita, ND. Experimental design was a randomized complete block with four replications. Spring soil analysis of the trial area indicated 2.3% organic matter, 7.7 pH, 28 lbs./A nitrate-N, and 7 ppm phosphorus. 'Howard' was direct-seeded into soybean stubble with 60 lbs./A of 11-52-0 applied in-furrow on April 28. Anhydrous ammonia at 82 lbs./A was applied with an Exactrix™ system during crop seeding. AN was broadcast on April 30 at N rates of 52, 82, and 112 lbs./A. Wheat plant population was measured at the 1- to 2-leaf stage on May 23. The trial was harvested with a plot combine on August 19.

Plant lodging did not occur in the trial. Plant height generally increased with N compared to the untreated check (Table). Plant stand, test weight and seed size were generally similar among N treatments and the untreated check. All N treatments generally improved seed yield and protein compared to the untreated check. The equal and high rate of broadcast N generally improved yield and protein compared to the rate of Exactrix N.

Table. No-till wheat response to N application methods, Juanita, 2008.							
N application		Plant		Seed			
					Test		
Method	Rate	Stand	Height	Yield	Weight	Number/lb	Protein
	lb N/ac	plt/A	cm	bu/A	lb/bu		%
Exactrix N	82	687929	78	45.2	60.2	14264.36	12.6
untreated check	0	636135	75	38.5	61.1	14210.66	11.3
broadcast N	52	628167	84	52.2	59.8	14540.94	13.0
broadcast N	82	614887	84	56.3	59.2	14367.5	13.9
broadcast N	112	737067	86	61.1	58.7	14952.25	14.3
Exactrix N	82	753004	84	50.8	59.1	13843.12	12.3
mean		676,198	82	10.1	59.7	14363	12.9
C.V. (%)		19.9	4.3	50.7	3.1	3.2	3.3
LSD (0.05)		NS	5	7.8	NS	NS	0.6