

**A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY  
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NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE  
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**New Durum Variety**

Since the July Field Day conducted at the Williston Research Center there have been several growers inquiring about the new durum variety named Tioga. It was developed by the NDSU Durum Breeding Program and released by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station this past winter. Williams County was awarded 240 bushels which was grown under contract through the county's agriculture improvement association.

Although named after the town of Tioga the new variety appears to be well adapted to the entire durum producing regions of the state. It has shown excellent yield potential in NDSU yield trials as well as very good yield stability across multiple environments.

Tioga was selected from a cross between two other NDSU varieties, Plaza and Maier. It has the longest kernel size among the predominant varieties grown in North Dakota. Thus, the test weight is very good.

Tioga has been given an overall quality rating of "excellent" by the NDSU Cereal Chemists. This rating is based on agronomic, milling and spaghetti processing performance. Its protein has been very good and its mixograph score and gluten index has been the highest when compared to other NDSU varieties.

The scab tolerance of Tioga is close to that of Divide which is slightly better than Grenora, Alkabo, Lebsock, Mountrail and Pierce. Tioga has moderate level of resistance to foliar diseases which is similar to Divide and Mountrail.

## **New Winter Wheat**

Wheat growers who have interest in winter wheat will be pleased to hear that Leon Helstad, Williston has agreed to a contract with the Williams County Agricultural Improvement Association and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station to increase a new variety of winter wheat named Decade. This variety resulted from a 10 year testing and cooperative research by the Montana State University winter wheat program and the NDSU Williston Research Center.

Decade has distinguished itself as having outstanding performance under high cold stress conditions. It is similar to CDC Falcon for winter hardiness.

The new wheat grows to about 30 inches. It is hollow-stemmed making it susceptible to sawfly damage. Decade was the second highest yielding variety tested over the 10 year period coming in at 61.5 bushels per acre. The highest yielding was CDC Falcon at 63.7 bushels. Test weight was medium to high, averaging 61.1 pounds per bushel for Decade and 60.2 pounds for CDC Falcon.

Decade heads about the same date as Jagalene in both Montana and North Dakota, 1-5 days earlier than CDC Falcon, 2.2 days earlier than Jerry and 3 days earlier than Yellowstone. Its straw strength is considered to be good. Significant lodging occurred only twice in the Montana trials. These instances were under high-yield and irrigated conditions.

Decade has excellent milling and baking qualities and produces higher flour yield and lower flour ash than CDC Falcon. It has loaf volume similar to Yellowstone and has medium to high grain protein.

The bottom line on Decade is it is a good variety being very high in yield and having winter hardiness to survive the harsh conditions of western North Dakota and eastern Montana.