

Winter Wheat Production Practices Report

Practice Exercise

ARMS Phase II



General

The Target Operator is Joe Schmo, 15 Jackson Street in Jackson, telephone (888) 555-9999. Joe is an individual operator who sometimes gets advice on farming from his uncle, and usually gets help at harvest time from his cousin Doug, but he would not consider them partners, as he is the only one making day-to-day decisions for his operation. According to the Phase I report, Joe owns 160 acres and rents an additional 850 acres. His primary crop is soybeans, but he also grows wheat, hay, and field corn. He does not own any livestock, nor does he want to. The enumerator made an appointment with Joe for October 10 to complete the survey. The interview began at 9:30 a.m.

Section A - Field Selection

1. Joe reports that last fall he seeded a total of 205 acres of winter wheat on his operation. These 205 acres of winter wheat were planted in a total of four fields which included:
 - a. Northeast quarter, 77 acres
 - b. Southeast quarter, 43 acres
 - c. Southwest quarter, 45 acres
 - d. Northwest quarter, 40 acres
2. The random number label reads: 5- which stands for Northeast
3. There were 77.0 acres of winter wheat planted in the selected field.

Section C – Fertilizer and Nutrient Applications

1. Joe made one application of 10-15-33-2 to the entire field in the fall before seeding took place at a rate of 260 pounds per acre and included Urea form nitrogen. In the spring after seeding, Joe applied Methylene Urea (40-0-0-6) at a rate of 100 pounds per acre. Later in the spring, Joe applied UAN (28-0-0-0) to the entire field at a rate of 25 gallons per acre. All applications were ground broadcast without incorporation.

Section D – Pesticide Applications

1. Two separate pesticide applications were made to the sample field after planting. The first was a tank mix of Harmony Extra with Stratego, which was applied to help with early season rust protection and weed control. The second application was with Headline, a fungicide used for rust suppression.
2. The Harmony was applied at a rate of 0.5 dry ounces per acre, while the Stratego was applied at a rate of 5 liquid ounces per acre. The Headline was applied at a rate of 6 liquid ounces per acre. All pesticides were applied to the entire field by directed spray by the operator.

Section E – Pest Management Practices

1. Joe most certainly uses weather data in determining the timing of pesticide applications.
2. No biological pesticides, insect growth regulators, neem or other natural/biological based products were sprayed or applied to manage pests in the selected field. Additionally, Joe did not deliberately use pesticides with different mechanisms of action deliberately for the purpose of keeping pests from becoming resistant to pesticides.
3. Joe does not believe that written or electronic records were kept to track pest activity, nor was published information on infestation thresholds used to determine when to take measures to manage pests. Joe stated there were no pre-emergence herbicide applications.
4. The field was scouted by Joe's chemical dealer for weeds, insects, and diseases, but he does not know what method was used to do the scouting. The scouting was not done due to a pest advisory warning or a pest development model, but rather that the service came for free with the purchase of the chemicals. The scout found that weeds and insects were not going to be a problem this year (lower than normal), but that disease pressures (from rust) would probably be at normal levels.
5. Field mapping of previous weed problems not used to assist in weed management,
6. Of the different pest management practices listed on page 7, Joe said that he did rotate his crops, used no-till, adjusted planting/harvesting dates, and cleaned his equipment after completing field work. Joe answered no to all other parts of question 13, and all of question 14-18.

Conclusion

1. Joe would like to receive a copy of the survey results. His e-mail address is jschmo@gmail.com.
2. The interview ended at 10:30 a.m.
3. Joe used farm records for fertilizer data and pesticide data. No supplements were needed.