## OSU Wheat Improvement: Sky's the Limit

## Annual Meeting ESS/SAES/ARD Directors 15 September 2009



#### US Wheat Production, 1980>



#### Wheat Rusts: Leaf, Stem, & Stripe

#### Leaf rust



Stem rust



Cereal Disease Lab, St. Paul, MN

#### Stripe rust















#### **Wheat Improvement Research**

#### Team Driven (OSU-DASNR)

**Product Oriented** 

Stakeholder Influenced

Market Guided



#### WIT at Work for OK Wheat

Create: GRAZEnGRAIN breeding system Deliver: comprehensive/multimedia extension package for optimum management & pest control

**Protect:** a wheat industry sensitive to perilous attacks from insects and pathogens **Enable:** an expanded wheat industry

**Publish:** world-class journals from Crop Science to Science

## **Financial Support**

About 2.5 faculty FTE, plus associated technical support, devoted to WIT research PLUS....



Oklahoma Wheat Res. Foundation	\$220,000
<b>OSU Foundation (Endowed Chair)</b>	\$60,000
OAES M&O	\$10,000
USDA-CSREES (Special Grants)	\$30,000
Royalties (subject to change)	\$28,000

## **Financial Impact**

#### Tens of millions . . .

# 2008 displacement: **\$18.5 M**

Total displacement in future: \$105 M minimum



## **Disease Resistance**

- Characterize disease reactions of current and prospective wheat varieties
- Save OK wheat producers money by developing genetic resistance to wheat diseases
- Deliver information to producers through extension



## Information Exchange

- Collect agronomic data from wheat research studies across the state
- Develop educational tools such as fact sheets, pamphlets, and web-based materials, and distribute to stakeholders



- characteristics
- Good disease package for no-till farmers
- Resistance to soil-borne and spindle streak mosaic viruses
- Moderately resistant to current races of leaf and stripe rust
- Good yield potential
- Exceptional test weight
- OK Bullet is marketed through a licensing agreement with Oklahoma Genetics Incorporated

Application for Plant Variety Protection Act Title V protection has been submitted for OK Bullet

Chaisoma State University, in compliance with The VI and VII of the Chill Rights Actor 1984, Execution Orient 1124 Sar amene dod, The Kort he Education Actor 1984, Execution of the University of the Children and Origina, and Orient Actor Ibane and registrations, does not discriminate on the back of Taos, cook, and/or all origin, exet, age, relation, discriminate on the back of Taos, cook, and/or all origin, exet, age, relation, discriminate on the Date of Taos, cook, and/or all origin, exet, age, relation, discriminate on the Ibane and and and and and patients of protocol rise. This includes but is not intende to animers bus, employment than calling and educational architecture.

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Oklahoma Wheat Research Foundation



#### OSU Wheat Improvement Team

Jeff Edwards, Brett Carver, Bob Hunger, Art Klatt, Bjorn Martin, David Porter, Patricia Rayas-Duarte, and Jeanmarie Verchot-Lubicz

www.wit.okstate.edu

#### **OK Bullet**

A new variety that zeroes in on high yield and wheat quality





Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service August 2005 PT 2005-14

Jeff Edwards 5 years

## Insect Resistance

- Develop IPM tools to save producers money and protect the environment
- Discover new sources of Hessian fly resistance







Kris Giles 3 years

#### **Gene Pool Enrichment**

- Find new sources for genetic resistance to wheat diseases
- Use synthetic wheat to deliver genes mother nature may have left out 8,000 years ago





Art Klatt 10 years

# QTL Discovery & Genomic Applications

- Find genetic markers for critical wheat traits that ensure productivity in OK
- Use MAS to speed and improve the breeding process
- Draw attention to OSU and the WIT through high-profile publications.



Liuling Yan 3 years

## **Drought Resistance**

Develop seedling assays for coleoptile elongation under water stress



Bjorn Martin 10 years

## **Protein Functionality**

- Develop new tools for assessing functionality of wheat that are consistent with enduser demands
- Help market the Oklahoma wheat crop by characterizing enduse quality



Patricia Rayas-Duarte 10 years

#### Wheat Breeding & Variety Development

- Combine the expertise of the WIT into a focused, cohesive research unit
- Produce wheat varieties tailor-made for Oklahoma



 Deliver the kind of wheat quality that customers will buy

#### Brett Carver 24 years

#### A WIT "contract"

#### Deliverables (Yan, FY2010)

(1) A genetic model and molecular mechanism to explain the effects of three genes (*VRN-A1, PPD-D1*, and *VRN-D3*) on the timing of first-hollow-stem stage, heading, and physiological maturity in winter wheat, and a protocol for extending perfect markers for these loci to breeding populations.

(2) A precise molecular explanation for allelic variation in powdery mildew resistance between Jagger and 2174, and a protocol for extending a perfect marker for the powdery mildew resistance gene to breeding populations.

(3) Development and application of a PCR-based marker for resistance to leaf rust and stripe rust in OSU breeding materials and relevant cultivars.

#### Procedures

*Deliverable 1:* We have genetically mapped the variation in developmental phases associated with three major QTLs, each tightly linked with a known flowering gene, *VRN-A1* (=*AP1*) on chromosome 5A, *PPD-D1* on chromosome 2D, and *VRN-D3* (=*FT*) on chromosome 7D, in the Jagger x 2174 population . The effect of *VRN-A1* slightly. . .



#### **End-product orientation**

# Quality is a devastating, competitive weapon.

#### -off the wall of a textile mill in North Carolina







## **Our Wheat Buyers**













## The Big Picture



Produce what we can sell, not sell what we can produce

We're Oklahoma Risin', brighter than a star

Stand up and sing about her, let the world know who we are

We're the sons and the daughters, children of the West

We're Oklahoma Risin', risin' up to be the best

#### **Perspectives**

- 60% productivity increase in 30 years?
- Need to put the offense in the field
- Transgenic applications: opportunity, but not salvation
- Molecular markers: tremendous voids, thus huge potential
- Phytochemical recovery wide open
- Hard white wheat: buyers want choices