



National Wheat Yield Contest

March 2017

Entry & Harvest Rules



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Entry Rules

The National Wheat Foundation (NWF) National Wheat Yield Contest has been organized to encourage the development of new, sustainable and innovative management practices resulting in higher yields and to show the importance of using sound cultural practices in United States wheat production. Please read rules carefully. *All rules set forth herein apply to all Contest Classes alike.*

Contest Entrant Qualifications

Entrants must be a producer and member of their recognized state wheat grower association, or if from a state without a recognized state wheat grower organization, a member of the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG). Entrants also are required to:

- Enter as an individual,
- Be at least fourteen (14) years of age or older at the time of entry,
- Be a current state (or NAWG) member-in-good-standing (Michigan growers are eligible if a participant in the Michigan wheat checkoff program).

Only individuals can enter the National Wheat Yield Contest. Members may enter multiple times and in either or both the winter and spring wheat categories, may only win one national award. Multiple partners in a farming entity may enter separately if they each have an individual membership in their own name. Entries from farming operations that do not list a member name will be disqualified.

Again, multiple family members or partners from the same operation may enter the contest separately, so long as they actively participate in the operation of the farm, have an individual state or NAWG membership, and meet the requirements listed herein.

If requested, the entrant agrees to provide records to the NWF of his or her methods of handling and preparing the land; cultivation and weed control methods; insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, fertilizers and rates of same that are used; the brand and variety of seed, seeding rate; date of planting, type and brand of seeder, row width and date of harvesting; and when irrigated, the timing of irrigation, amount of each application and type used.

Sector and Sub-Sector Descriptions

CONTEST SECTOR/SUB-SECTOR (Cannot be changed at time of harvest)

- Check one sector/sub-sector only per entry
- List only one wheat certified or branded seed name/number per field per entry form. Blends will not be allowed.
- Indicate the proper sector/sub-sector on the Entry Form and retain a copy for your information at time of harvest.
- Check your entry confirmation to make sure all fields have been completed and are correct before harvesting.
- **Contact nwyc@wheatfoundation.org if there is a correction to your entry information.**

- (A) **Winter Wheat - Dryland** is open to wheat growers in the continental United States
- (B) **Winter Wheat – Irrigated** is open to all wheat growers in the continental United States
- (C) **Spring Wheat – Dryland** is open to all wheat growers in the continental United States
- (D) **Spring Wheat – Irrigated** is open to all wheat growers in the continental United States

Winter Wheat: Grain harvested is marketed as winter wheat (includes spring wheat planted during the winter in coastal areas)

Spring Wheat: Grain harvested is marketed as spring wheat

Irrigated: Any field receiving any supplemental water since the last harvest or during the current growing season.

Dryland: Any field that has not received any supplemental water since the last harvest or during the current growing season.

Contest Field

Contest entry must be *at least 5 continuous acres, maybe larger, of certified or branded wheat seed*. Contestant may select the best 5 acres in a wheat field actually larger than 5 acres and enter this certified or branded seed. The entry can be anywhere in the continental United States. The land entered in the Contest must be owned or leased by the entrant.

The definition of a field site is as follows:

- Supervisors must be able to determine location of each seed entry (variety/number) by a physical division in the field such as a:
 - Skipped non-planted area, not part of contest acres
 - Flag or other marker to determine division
 - Definite planting pattern for each 5-acre plot
 - Making the call by differences in physical appearance of the plant only will **not** qualify.
- Harvest Rules are applicable to each entry such as:
 - Five acre minimum of one seed variety/number in each area
 - All end-rows and an equal number of side-rows for each seed entry must be removed before starting a supervised harvest.

CONTINUOUS ACRES of **one** seed entry is defined by the uniform width and length of the seeder. In the interest of Best Management Practices, grass waterways and drainage ditches may be a part of the contest plot if at some point in the 5 acres the uniform seeder row spacing is evident. The width of the grass waterway will be included in the harvested row length if wheat is planted through the waterway. If the rows are planted alongside the waterway or drainage ditch and row lengths vary, the actual length of each row must be included in the total row length.

Contest Wheat Seed Qualifications

The wheat seed entry (variety / number):

- Must be currently commercially available for sale.
- Must be a certified or branded seed variety
- Bin run, home-grown or “brown bag” wheat seed are **NOT** eligible

Contest Fees

Any individual contestant may enter more than one seed entry in each class.

- An entry fee of **\$100 per variety entered if registered online by April 1 (winter wheat) or June 15 (spring wheat) is due upon submission**
- After these early entry dates of April 1 for winter wheat and June 15 for spring wheat, **\$125 per variety entry when entered online by May 1 (winter wheat) or August 1 (spring wheat)**
- The Entry Fee in the form of credit card (via PayPal) must be received with the submission of your entry form or the form cannot be accepted. If you are entered in the contest by an industry representative, that person can use his or her personal or company credit card to pay the entry fee. *REMINDER: You must be a member in good standing (dues payment current) of a recognized state wheat grower association to enter. If you reside in a state that does not have a recognized state wheat grower association, you must be a member of the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG). If you are not a member of a recognized state wheat growers association, please join PRIOR to entering the contest, or you can join NAWG at the same time you enter (NAWG annual dues are \$100.00). If your farm is on or near a state line and your contest entry is in one state but your mailing address is in another, you must indicate this when filling out the Harvest Report Form. The recognition will be given according to the state in which the wheat seed entry was grown. If the form is completed for you, be sure the contest sector and sub-sector are correct.*

Membership Fees

You must be a member in good standing (dues payment current) of a recognized state wheat grower association to enter the National Wheat Yield Contest. If you reside in a state that does not have a recognized state wheat grower association, you must be a member of the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG). If you are not a member of a recognized state wheat growers association (or if in Michigan, not a state wheat checkoff program participant), please join PRIOR to entering the contest, or (if from a state not having a recognized state wheat grower organization) you can join NAWG at the same time you enter the contest (NAWG annual dues are \$100.00). **All entries will be verified for membership. Non-members will be disqualified.**

States with Recognized State Wheat Grower Associations or Checkoff Organizations:

Alabama (www.alfafarmers.org), California (www.cgfa.org), Colorado (www.coloradowheat.org), Idaho (www.idahograin.org), Illinois (www.illinoiswheat.org), Kansas (www.kswheat.org), Kentucky (www.kysmallgrains.org), Maryland (www.marylandgrain.com), Michigan (www.miwheat.org), Minnesota (www.smallgrains.org), Montana (www.mgga.org), Nebraska (www.nebraskawheat.com), New Mexico, North Carolina (www.ncwheat.com), North Dakota (www.ndgga.com), Ohio (www.ohiocornandwheat.org), Oklahoma (www.owga.org), Oregon (www.oregonwheat.org), South Dakota (www.sdwheat.org), Texas (www.texaswheat.org), Virginia (www.virginiagrains.com), Washington (www.wawg.org), Wyoming (www.wyomingwheat.com)

Harvest Supervisor Eligibility Qualifications

The harvest supervisors' names need to be entered on the National Wheat Yield Contest during the harvest data entry phase. This information is not required during the on-line entry registration. Growers entering the Contest need to be lining up their Harvest Supervisor prior to harvest. When entering the harvest data, the Harvest Supervisor's name, title, address, telephone number and email address is needed before the harvest data can be accepted. The supervisors are responsible for overseeing all computations and field measurements and must be present during harvesting, weighing, moisture testing, quality check, and reporting as required by these rules. The entrant is responsible for completing and submitting the on-line harvest report form.

A supervisor cannot be related to the contestant, be a wheat seed representative, crop protection product dealer, a staff member of the contest industry partners or be an employee, employer, manager or consultant of the contestant or of his farm.

See the Supervisor chart in the Harvest info for Supervisor qualifications and duties.

Questions Asked on National Wheat Yield Contest Entry Form

- List the state where contest field is located
- Select a contest sector/sub-sector from the following:
 - Winter wheat – Dryland
 - Winter Wheat – Irrigated
 - Spring Wheat – Dryland
 - Spring Wheat – Irrigated
- Seed Brand and Entry
- Name of Seed Sales Representative
- Name of Seed Dealer
- Seed treatment: chemical, growth regulator or seed applied nutrients
- Seeder width (feet)
- Seeder row spacing
- Seeder Make & Model
- Previous Year's Crop

Summary of Entering the National Wheat Yield Contest

- a. Complete the contest Entry Form in its entirety online.
- b. Provide your or the company rep's credit card information (using PayPal) where applicable.
- c. **NO REFUNDS** of Entry Fees or Membership Dues will be issued after an entry is in the contest database.
- d. Entry forms and contest fees must be ***entered online completely by 5:00pm Eastern Time on May 1 (winter wheat) or August 1 (spring wheat). Early registration ends April 1 (winter wheat) and June 15 (spring wheat).***
- e. If you have any questions, please submit them to **nwyc@wheatfoundation.org**.

Harvest Rules

Harvest Report Forms

The contest entry must be harvested in accordance with the harvest procedures set forth by the National Wheat Foundation (NWF) for the National Wheat Yield Contest.

Harvest Report Forms are required to be completed and submitted on-line:

- The final supervised yield check per individual entry needs to be completed on-line no later than **October 1st**.
- If the wheat seed entry (variety name / number) is reported differently on the Harvest Report Form than it was on the Entry Form, the wheat seed entry on the Harvest Report Form will be listed.
- NWF reserves the right to contact harvest supervisors to validate compliance with contest rules. NWF also reserves the right, with advance notification, to observe any harvest.

Again, it is the responsibility of the entrant to see that their Harvest Report Forms are properly completed and submitted on-line by the designated deadlines.

Review of Field Requirements

From a field of wheat more than five (5) acres in size of one wheat seed entry the entrant shall select an area of at least five (5) acres of wheat, of which no part has been harvested. The contest area may be any shape, but must be in one continuous block of wheat without overlapping rows.

Supervisors

Supervisor(s) submitted on your Entry Form may complete the initial check. If the supervisor designated on the Entry Form is not available on the day of the harvest check, the entrant may use another qualified supervisor.

NWF will allow only supervisors meeting the following qualifications to be utilized by the entrant:

- FFA Advisors
- Vocational Agricultural Instructor
- County Extension Agent or Assistant
- (NRCS) Natural Resources Conservation Service Employees
- (FSA) Farm Service Agency CED/Loan Manager/Officer
- (SWCD) Soil & Water Conservation District
- Farm Credit Services Officer
- Bank Ag Loan Officer
- Private Crop Consultant or Agronomist
- College of Agriculture Instructor
- American Society of Farm Managers Accredited Farm Manager

- Crop Insurance Agents/Adjustors
- Anyone who is retired from one of these positions

Supervisors cannot be the following:

- Anyone that has a financial or direct business tie to a company that sells agribusiness supplies (Seed or Chemical reps, Farm Equipment salesmen, etc.)
- An employee or relative of the contest entrant
- The contest entrant
- Growers serving on state association boards
- Employees of any contest industry partner (i.e. BASF, Monsanto, Deere, WinField)

The supervisors are responsible for:

- Being present during harvesting, weighing (gross and tare), moisture testing and quality determination
- Field measurements
- Completing all computations

The supervisor(s) must have the entrant run his combine and the transfer auger empty to make certain no wheat has been left in it by mistake. All wagons or trucks must be checked to make certain they are empty.

If a recheck is performed but was not required, according to the rules based upon the number of supervisors present and the yield outcome, the initial check will stand. The entrant is responsible for submitting the information on the on-line harvest form.

	Yields 149.9999 or Less	Yields 150.0000 or Higher
Initial Chec	One or two supervisors complete the initial harvest.	One or two supervisors complete the initial harvest.
Recheck	No recheck required.	Recheck is required with two supervisors. Supervisors must consist of one supervisor from initial check and one new supervisor OR Two new supervisors.
		All yields 200.0000 bushels or higher must contact NWF before and after recheck at nwyc@wheatfoundation.org

NWF reserves the right to contact harvest supervisors to validate compliance with contest rules. NWF ALSO RESERVES THE RIGHT, WITH ADVANCE NOTIFICATION, TO OBSERVE ANY HARVEST.

Initial Check

All end/turning rows and the equal number of outermost rows on each side of the field must be harvested before starting an initial check. If the field is contoured or terraced, the area left unharvested must be in

each contour or terrace interval, adjacent and equal to the area originally harvested. The entrant must harvest at least 1.50 acres in order to complete the initial check. The unharvested wheat will be used for the recheck if required by guideline.

Recheck

A recheck of 1.50 acres or more using the same harvest pattern in the rows next to the completed first check is required if yield exceeds 150.0000 bushels per acre. Both the first check and the recheck must be submitted using the on-line Harvest Form. The yield resulting from a required recheck will be considered the official yield if the first check was harvested according to the requirements.

Contact nwyc@wheatfoundation.org for instructions if the initial yield or recheck exceeds 200.0000 bushels per acre before proceeding.

Measuring

Entries determined not to be measured and recorded properly may result in changes in your official yield. Preferred measurement tools are a tape or chain. Measuring wheels are acceptable for measurements, but cannot be operated from a motorized vehicle. Checking wheel calibration accuracy is recommended. A laser may also be used to measure only if the rows are straight and the field is flat. Laser has to be able to hit point to point. If the field has any kind of curve or slope to it, a laser cannot be used to measure. Checking laser calibration accuracy is recommended. Each measurement must be recorded on the form submitted to the NWF. Proper tape and chain measurements are taken with the measurement tool pulled tight but not off the ground surface. **** GPS is not allowed as a measurement tool in the contest.**

Plot Length: If the rows are all the same length, measure the length of one row and record same length for each of the rows harvested. If the rows are not all the same length, measure down the center of each set harvested and record the length for each of the rows in the set. (On pivot irrigation do not subtract wheel space).

Plot Width: Record the plot width harvested.

In the interest of Best Management Practices, grass waterways may be a part of the contest plot if the uniform seeder row spacing is evident in the selected harvest acres. The length of the grass waterway will be included in the harvested row length if the contest wheat is planted in the waterway. If the contest wheat is not planted in the waterway, the actual length of each row shall not be included in the total row length.

Calculating Acres Harvested

The total row length (feet) times the width harvested (feet) divided by 43,560 (square feet in one acre) equals acres harvested.

For example: if an area 1000 feet long in the field is selected, the width of 5 continuous acres would be 217.8 ft. For the initial yield check of at least 1.5 acres, 65.34 feet would be the minimum width of harvesting the 1000 foot length.

Weighing

It is recommended to weigh the wheat as soon as possible after harvesting. All wheat must be weighed on a state-inspected scale by the supervisor or the supervisor(s) overseeing. On-farm scales must be state inspected. It must have the name of the company where the weighing was done and the name of the person doing the weighing. Please make sure when scanning or taking a picture of your weigh ticket to submit it electronically, that it is legible to read. If NWF receives a weigh ticket that is not legible, we will contact the grower for the original copy. **ALL WEIGH WAGONS ARE PROHIBITED.**

**** Supervisors MUST initial weigh tickets to show that they were present at time of weighing.**

Moisture Testing

An experienced person must make a moisture determination of a representative sample of the wheat. *It is best to have the same sample run through the meter three times and take the average of the three.* Moisture percent must be listed on weigh ticket or attach a moisture ticket.

Wheat Quality Requirements

All contest wheat submitted on the Harvest Form must be of at least milling quality. No wheat designated for feed or not at least milling quality will be eligible to win. Designated grade should be noted on the Harvest Form **and must be graded as #1 or #2 wheat** to be eligible.

Calculating Yield

(All calculations must be carried to four decimal places): First, find the number of bushels of wheat harvested, corrected to 0% moisture, then divide by the acres harvested to get bushels per acre.

To calculate bushels harvested, corrected to 0% moisture (dry matter), take the total pounds of wheat harvested, times the difference of 100% minus the percent moisture in the wheat, and divide by 51.9 lbs/bu (pounds of wheat in a bushel at 0% moisture).

*For example: 5000 pounds of 15% moisture wheat was harvested off 1.55 acres. To calculate bushels per acre: $((5000.0000\text{lbs} * .85)/51.9 \text{ lbs./bu})/1.5500 \text{ acres} = 52.8311 \text{ bushels/acre}$*

Questions Asked on NWYC Harvest Report Form

- Verify that the state listed is where the contest field is located
- Verify that the wheat sector/sub-sector selected matches the field
- Verify the Wheat Seed Entry (Brand and Variety/Number)
- Contestant must be a certified FSA owner/operator of the entry area. A copy of FSA Form 578, including farm summary, may be requested by NWF.
- Fertilizer (Actual lbs./acres applied since last crop) – Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P₂O₅), Potash (K₂O), Trace Elements and/ or Manure
- How was fertilizer applied? Surface, Incorporated, through Irrigation & How Many Times?
- When was nitrogen fertilizer applied: Pre-emergence, tillering, jointing, boot, flag leaf emergence, heading, anthesis, or grain filling
- Was Tissue Test taken on Contest Field
- List Herbicides, Insecticides and Fungicides – Brand, Rate, Application Method & Timing of Application

- List of any other products applied to crop? Growth Regulators, Microbials/biologics, etc.
- Was the field irrigated?
 - Irrigation Method – Furrow (Flood), Drip, Sprinkler or Underground Tile
 - Approximately how many inches of irrigated water applied per acre in inches?
- How many acres of non-contest wheat did you plant?
- What percentage of non-contest wheat is irrigated?
- What was your average yield on non-contest wheat?
- What is the average application rate on non-contest wheat? Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potash, Trace Elements & Manure
- Harvester Make and Model
- Field Location: County
- Total acres in contest field
- Provide measurements for lengths and width harvested
- Date Harvested
- Designated elevator grade of wheat
- Was a laser used to measure?
 - If yes, was harvested area straight and did the field have curve or any slope?
- Make sure at least 1.50 acres was harvested in the initial check; ensure 1.50 acres was harvested in the recheck.
- Provide gross and tare weights and moisture to figure bushels harvested
- Upload image of weigh ticket (and moisture ticket, if applicable; and verification of minimum quality)
- List Supervisor(s) present during plot harvest
- Confirm that a recheck was or was not needed

Harvest Form Submission

Weigh tickets must be signed by each official supervisor per the aforementioned guidelines.

Harvest Report Forms must be submitted after the final supervised yield check per individual entry is taken, or **by October 1**.

The online form submission will be closed after October 1 at 11:59pm Eastern Time. Harvest Forms WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER October 1.

No information on Contest results will be released until the results are posted. Results will be released on or before December 1, 2017.

Decisions of the NWF in all matters are final. The NWF reserves the right to disqualify any entry without a refund for violation of these stated rules and non-approved industry promotional activities.

Contestant Recognition

Approved Promotional Activities for Industry Sponsors

- Pay **entrants** Recognized State Wheat Grower Association or NAWG annual dues
- Pay **entrants** National Wheat Yield Contest entry fees
- Provide **entrants** with company products, in accordance with label rates, sufficient to cover the minimum contest plot of five acres
- Provide the first place **national winners** cash or other awards totaling a maximum of \$1,000 per product not to exceed \$2,500 per national winner per company. Lesser amounts may be awarded to **second through fifth place national winners**.
- Provide additional Commodity Classic travel expenses, lodging, meals, and registration to immediate family members, operation partners or other individuals with a stake in the NWYC contest area. NWF will provide base Commodity Classic travel, lodging and registration for the top five national sector and/or sub-sector winners.
- Provide **national and state winners** with company products, in accordance with label rates, sufficient to plant or treat up the contest field, not to exceed 40 acres of product.

Any promotional activity not approved above requires written approval by the NWF before promoting to the nation's wheat growers. The NWF reserves the right to disqualify any entry without a refund for violation of these stated rules and non-approved industry promotion activities.

Judging

The contestant's score will be the percentage increase by which their yield exceeds the 5-year Olympic county average (dropping the high and low years) for that sector and sub-sector as determined by USDA. (If an entry is received from a county that does not have USDA yield data, the average of the USDA yields of all states that are represented in the contest will be used.)

For example: If a grower's contest area yield is 100 bushels per acre and the USDA 5-year average yield for the grower's county is 50 bushels per acre, then the grower's score is 100 (100% increase over the county average yield).

In the event of a percentage tie, the contestant harvesting and reporting the largest actual bushel yield will be declared the winner. If a second tie-breaker is needed, the contestant with the longest time between the entry date and the harvest date will be named the winner.

Any entry is subject to further review. Any contestant committing fraud will be barred from the contest for three years.

Contest Winners

State winners in each sector / sub-sector will be determined by score. Scores below zero (0) will not be eligible for state and national competition. First, second and third place state winners in each sector / sub-sector will be recognized.

The five national winners in each sector and/or sub-sector will be named from the first-place state winners based on score. Only one national award will be given per membership, with only the entry with the highest score being considered for national honors.

Each contest entrant is eligible to win only one national award in the contest. If an entrant enters two or more wheat seed entries and all place in the top five wheat yields in that sector or sub-sector, recognition will only be accorded the highest ranking wheat seed entry. *National recognition will be accorded to the top five places in each sector and/or sub-sector* (at least 10 and no more than 20 individual winners will be recognized nationally. The individual's name listed on the Entry and Harvest Forms will be recognized instead of the business name. National winners will be recognized at the next Commodity Classic following the conclusion of each year's contest.

State winners will receive plaques or certificates. National winners will receive trophies. Except where noted, no cash awards will be given by NWF.



Good Luck!

