

July 2017

Winter wheat

James Wilson
Iowa State College

C. F. Curtiss
Iowa State College

D. A. Kent
Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/bulletin>



Part of the [Agriculture Commons](#), and the [Agronomy and Crop Sciences Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Wilson, James; Curtiss, C. F.; and Kent, D. A. (2017) "Winter wheat," *Bulletin*: Vol. 2 : No. 15 , Article 8.
Available at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/bulletin/vol2/iss15/8>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Extension and Experiment Station Publications at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bulletin by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.

WINTER WHEAT.

JAMES WILSON, C. F. CURTISS, D. A. KENT.

Fourteen varieties of winter wheat sown by director Speer, were found growing on the Station grounds when we took charge in January. Eight varieties, viz.: The Hybrid Lamed, Hybrid Dattel, "Found in Golden Cross," Pool, Jones White Fife, Early Red Clawson, Turkish Red, and Golden Cross, were grown on fair sized plats (averaging about one-fourth of an acre), but the remaining six, viz.: The Johnson, Willits, Roberts, Bailey, and Stewarts, were grown on areas too small for a very satisfactory test. All varieties had been sown between the dates of September 5th and 15th, on what appeared to have been fall plowed corn ground. The seeding had been done broadcast, and the ground smoothly harrowed. The soil was upland clay loam with timber adjoining, about fifteen rods distant, on two sides. No snow of any account fell until the fore part of February. Through February and the first half of March, snow fell frequently and quite abundantly so that the ground was covered during a greater part of this time. Several varieties winter-killed quite badly. The Hybrid Lamed was about half dead in the spring. The Hybrid Dattel though not so badly killed as the Lamed, was looking thin and weak. Both of these varieties were weak and backward during the entire season and made a poor crop. The variety "Found in Golden Cross," wintered well and looked vigorous from the start. The stand, excepting a few bare spots, was good. April 23d it stood five inches high, and was harvested July 11th, at a medium height, free from rust and disease. The berry was medium sized, dark colored, and hard. In taking notes on the Pool wheat, April 23d, we wrote: "About two-thirds of a stand—uneven—nearly all dead in spots, but stooling remarkably well." A surprising growth and improvement took place in this variety during the growing season. It

grew strong and luxuriant, ripened with a golden hue, and was practically healthy. The berry was a little uneven in size, but very hard. The Jones White Fife was the most promising looking variety on the grounds. It made a beautiful growth, stood the winter well, and the stand was good. It has a slightly pubescent leaf and long well filled heads. This variety was free from disease, but lodged a little before ripening. The berry was plump and even. The Early Red Clawson wintered fairly well, except in low spots. It stood erect, and ripened free from rust, but blighted some.

The Turkish Red came through the winter in the best condition of any variety sown. It was rank and vigorous, but seemed to suffer severely from the May drouth. This variety stooled more than any other and was evidently sown too thick. The straw was consequently fine and short and lodged considerably. The berry is small, hard and plump. The heads were small and the crop while growing did not look as vigorous as the Jones White Fife, although the yield was the largest of any variety sown. The Golden Cross looked rather uneven in the spring being best on the lower ground. The stand was good and a fair growth was made; no disease. The berry is light colored, uniform and plump. Of the varieties on the smaller plats Beal grew tall and heavy, but showed rust and blight. Wintered fairly well. Johnson is also a large growing variety; withstood the winter pretty well, but blighted in the heat of July. Roberts winter-killed badly. Heads long and open. Affected by rust and blight. Willits germinated unevenly, showed a tendency to grow in tufts, vigorous in some bunches and weak in others; seemed hardy. Straw stiff and heavy and nearly free from rust, berry somewhat shriveled.

Bailey nearly one-half winter killed, looked badly in spring, but improved greatly during the growing season. Made a fair crop.

Stewart winter killed badly. Was very uneven in the spring, but like the Bailey, improved greatly. The berry was good. The following table gives the rate of yield per acre, date of harvesting and some of the characteristics of each variety. The small plats, however, averaged only three or

four square rods each, and the estimate of yield per acre and other qualities of the six last named varieties cannot be considered a fair test.

VARIETY.	Date of harvesting.	Yield per acre. Bu.	Weight per bushel. Lbs.	Character of heads.
1 Hybrid Lamed.....	July 16	8	53	Bald.
2 Hybrid Dattel.....	" 16	12 $\frac{3}{8}$	56	"
3 "formed in Golden Cross".....	" 11	23 $\frac{3}{8}$	62	"
4 Pool.....	" 11	24 $\frac{3}{4}$	62 $\frac{1}{4}$	"
5 Jone's White Fife.....	" 11	33	63	"
6 Early Red Clawson.....	" 11	23	60	"
7 Turkish Red.....	" 11	40 $\frac{1}{8}$	63 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bearded.
8 Golden Cross.....	" 11	23	62	"
9 Beal.....	" 13	27	60	"
10 Johnson.....	" 13	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{1}{4}$	"
11 Roberts.....	" 13	23	56	Bald.
12 Willits.....	" 13	27	56	"
13 Bailey.....	" 13	22	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bearded
14 Stewart.....	" 13	19	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	"

The past season has been very favorable for wheat growing in Iowa and results as favorable as were obtained from several of the better varieties reported here would justify an increased acreage of wheat. It is seldom, however, that the wheat crop is as good in this state as the last one.

Thirteen varieties including the best that we had and others highly recommended have been sown on fall plowed corn ground and newly broken clover ground. The fall conditions have not been as favorable this season as last. The drouth prevented sowing at the proper time and germination was late.