

## Southern Illinois Wheat Tour – May 29, 2019

The IWA will host the Southern Illinois Wheat Tour on Wednesday, May 29. The tour will give producers an opportunity to make crop observations (note any evidence of leaf and head diseases) and make yield estimates of the 2019 winter wheat crop. The tour will include field checks during the day with an evening report session at Belleville Research Center, Southern Illinois University, in Belleville, IL. The research center is located at 2036 Charles Lane in Belleville, IL.

The Belleville research field tours will begin at 4:00 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 p.m. sponsored by ADM Milling, Ardent Mills, Mennel Milling, and Siemer Milling. Prior to the evening meal, yield estimates will be calculated, and attendees will have an opportunity to view wheat variety and seed treatment trials. Dr. Nathan Kleczewski, University of Illinois Professor of Plant Pathology will be on hand to discuss challenges from wheat diseases observed on the tour.

**IMPORTANT:** Please register in advance for the tour and the evening meal! **Be sure to bring a yardstick or ruler, and a magnifying glass.** Contact one of the tour leaders listed below if you plan to participate in the daytime tour (taking field checks). Tour Participants are asked to meet by 9:00 a.m. at one of these five locations:

- 1) Siemer Milling Company, 111 W. Main, Teutopolis, IL. Dave Devore is leading the tour. Call 217-857-3131 to register for the tour.
- 2) Mennel Milling Company of Illinois, 415 E. Main St., Mt. Olive, IL. Tour leader to be determined. Call 217-999-2161 to register for the tour.
- 3) AgriMAXX Wheat Seed Company, 7167 Highbanks Road, Mascoutah, IL. Matt Wehmeyer is leading the tour. Call 855-629-9432 to register for the tour.
- 4) Wabash Valley Services Co, 1562 Illinois 1, Carmi, IL. Matt McCurdy is leading the tour. Call 618-384-5721 or email [mmccurdy@wabashvalleyfs.com](mailto:mmccurdy@wabashvalleyfs.com) to register for the tour.
- 5) Wabash Valley FS Services Co., 10931 Coal Mine Road, McLeansboro, IL. Aaron Hunsinger is tour leader for Hamilton, Gallatin, and Wayne Counties. Call 618-384-0243 to register for the tour.

Please make your reservation to assist with the evening meal planning! If you wish to participate in the report-back session at Belleville and join us for dinner, RSVP by May 22 to the Illinois Wheat Association office (309-557-3619 or [cblary@ilfb.org](mailto:cblary@ilfb.org)).

If you cannot attend the daytime tour but would like to take samples on your own and then join us for the meal and wrap-up session at Belleville, that is fine, but we still need you to RSVP your intentions to the Illinois Wheat Association office.

To assist those that wish to make field estimates on their own and report their observations, below are the winter wheat tour instructions to ensure that everyone follows the same procedures:

- Go into each field more than 20 paces to sample beyond the “headlands.”
- Laying a yardstick across several rows, determine the row spacing (in inches). Then lay the yardstick along one of the drill rows to begin counting tillers. Count all the stems within the 36” row strip and record the tiller count and row spacing on a data sheet.
- If the field has been “broadcast” rather than drilled, measure off a 1’X3’ area and count all the stems within the area (possibly 300 or so), and record the tiller count on your data sheet and record the row spacing as 12 inches.