

Summary

CLEARFIELD® wheat varieties, such as ORCF-101, combined with Beyond™ herbicide, will provide growers with a powerful new tool and option for grassy weed control. It is not, however, a perfect technology. Proper variety stewardship and herbicide management will remain critical to both short- and long-term effectiveness. The OSU Technology Transfer office will offer non-exclusive seed licenses for ORCF-101 to the industry in late spring and summer. We are currently working through the final contract language and licensing issues. Licenses will need to be executed prior to purchase of any Foundation seed this August. Stewardship training will be provided to our Seed Associates during the summer.

OSU became involved with CLEARFIELD® variety development because of the potential benefits and economic value to the Oregon wheat industry. The new variety ORCF-101 is the direct result of a unique partnership and collaboration between OSU and BASF. With this partnership have come many challenges and legal issues, such as defining the appropriate role of OSU in commercializing coproprietor technology. Delivery of value-added traits and new technologies in well-adapted, high quality varieties is critical to our future. If we are to stay relevant and continue to access new proprietary traits,

public breeding programs must learn to effectively work with private industry. We must be capable of managing variety protection and patented technologies, have flexibility to develop exclusive markets for value-added traits, and work through confidentiality issues without sacrificing our commitment to growers and the public. As a public program, this can be accomplished only with a high level of accountability, involvement and support of the wheat industry. The OSU CLEARFIELD® Wheat Advisory Committee and Oregon Wheat Commission demonstrated how effectively this can be accomplished and we appreciate their input, insights, and support. Commercialization of CLEARFIELD® technology is an important step to demonstrate that OSU can be an effective partner with industry and effectively manage new proprietary technologies.

Our appreciation goes out to our many research collaborators, grower collaborators, to BASF, the OSU CLEARFIELD® Wheat Advisory Committee, and particularly to the Oregon Wheat Commission for their ongoing support in the development and release of ORCF-101. Through these collaborative efforts and continued support, I am confident that ORCF-101 is just the first example of how OSU can effectively partner with industry and deliver products of biotechnology to Oregon growers. / /

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July 2004 Report

COMMERCIALIZATION OF CLEARFIELD®

"Expand trade of PWW® wheats to other parts of the U.S. as well as South America and the Orient, cooperate with experiment stations, encourage wheat research through the State college and federally to develop better varieties that will better fit milling uses, develop feed outlets for wheat in the form of supporting prices at livestock shows where grain led beef and shown and the local 4-H fairs." Thus, ground was laid for the Commission charge to fund marketing, research and education. The "tax" was not to go to the State General Fund. The growers "tax" dollars (assessments) today allow the OWC to contract with the Oregon Wheat Growers League for educational activities, US Wheat Associates and Wheat Marketing Center for market development and Oregon State University for research just to name a few.

Your current Commissioners have consulted with those that have gone through the budget process before us and served our growers well. We have been advised to stay the course; we are on the right track.

Along with statute revision comes the added cost of oversight by the OGA and the additional public member. Figures run by our OWC Administrator, Tina Simpson, show a dramatic decline in program funding at all levels of refund. After having received input from 16 other states, of those that offer refundability, the average of refund requests runs around 9.2%.

The Oregon Wheat Commission (OWC) signed on to an omnibus bill which amends ORS 576 and 578 in January 2003 for the purpose of modernizing and updating commodity commission statutes, to clarify the oversight functions of OGA and to make specific the legislative intent behind the creation of commodity commissions recognizing their importance to the State of Oregon and the citizens of this State. As commissioners, we feel that maintaining the commission as non-refundable will least effort our ability to complete the mission of the commission. We believe after adjusting to additional checks and balances by the OGA we will be glad we did in order to reinforce the commission's legal standing. / /

