

WHEAT RESEARCH PROJECTS
BACKGROUNDER

Enhancing wheat breeding capacity through developing private sector involvement and technology adoption

This project fills a key gap in developing efficient wheat disease screening and quality testing capacities in Western Canada, using both traditional and recently developed molecular breeding methods in collaboration with private companies. The researcher has demonstrated strong partnership between public and private research institutes and has secured confirmed 50 per cent matching funds from Secan.

Private sector funding: Secan - \$665,000.

Principal Investigator: Ron Knox PhD, Biotechnologist, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Contact Information: 306-778-7262

Developing wheat varieties for added quality and performance

The goal of this project is to develop wheat varieties that provide improved food quality and agronomic performance. This would deliver a high-value product to the Canadian marketplace and improve competitiveness of Saskatchewan wheat producers in the global market. The integration of public and private partnership has secured 50 per cent matching funds from Dow AgroSciences.

Private sector funding: Dow AgroSciences - \$1,250,000.

Principal Investigator: Curtis Pozniak, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Saskatchewan

Contact Information: 306-966-2361

Integration of fungicide strategies and genetic resistance to control stripe rust of wheat

This project addresses the proactive initiative to maximize the durability of stripe rust disease resistance in elite CDC wheat varieties using both fungicides and genetics. Tolerance to this disease would become a requirement for wheat variety registration by 2017, highlighting the importance of conducting research now, in order to ensure the sustainability and profitability of Saskatchewan producers in the near future. The project has secured 50 per cent matching funds from Bayer CropScience.

Private sector funding: Bayer CropScience - \$800,000.

Principal Investigator: H. Randy Kutcher, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Saskatchewan

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