

**Washington Grain Commission**  
**Wheat and Barley Research Annual Progress Reports and Final Reports**

**Project #: 3667**

**Progress Report Year:**     \_\_\_2\_ of \_3\_\_\_ (*maximum of 3 year funding cycle*)

**Title:**                     **End-Use Quality Assessment of Washington State University  
Wheat Breeding Lines**

**Cooperators:**             *Mike Pumphrey, Arron Carter, Craig F. Morris, Doug Engle*

**Executive summary:**

WSU spring and winter wheat variety development programs heavily emphasize selection for superior end-use quality. All market classes and wheat production areas of the state are affected by/included in this project. Quality evaluation of WSU breeding lines has been ongoing for over 50 years. Effective quality testing is essential for the recent release of new varieties from all market classes that are at or near the top of end-use quality rankings. This project supports a scientist to conduct thousands of quality tests per year for the WSU wheat breeding programs in conjunction with the USDA-ARS Western Wheat Quality Laboratory.

**Impact:**

The majority of wheat from the PNW is now being exported to overseas markets. To maintain current markets and recapture lost markets, PNW wheat must possess quality characteristics that make it suitable for use in both domestic and overseas markets. Therefore, before it is released, a new variety must be tested to determine if it is suitable for use in specific end-use products. In addition, increased competition from traditional and non-traditional exporters necessitates enhancing the end-use quality of our wheat. The loss of overseas markets will continue to cause a reduction in the demand and therefore the price of wheat, resulting in losses to Washington farmers. Concerted efforts to insure that new varieties possess superior quality traits are an essential step to recapturing lost markets and establishing new markets. Washington State University, Washington Wheat Growers, the State of Washington, and the PNW, as well as grain buyers, will benefit from the availability of wheat varieties that require less inputs and possess superior, consistent end-use quality. Otto, Puma, Glee, JD, Louise, Sprinter, Chet, Alum, Seahawk, Melba, Whit, Babe, Dayn and Diva are examples of recent top-performing lines that also have very good to excellent end-use quality.

**Outputs and Outcomes: File attached**

**WGC project number:** 3667  
**WGC project title:** End-Use Quality Assessment of Washington State University Wheat Breeding Lines  
**Project PI(s):** Mike Pumphrey and Arron Carter  
**Project initiation date:** 1-Jul-14  
**Project year (X of 3-yr cycle):** 2 of 3 year cycle

Objective	Deliverable	Progress	Timeline	Communication
Early to late generation quality testing of WSU experimental lines to aid variety development	New spring wheat and winter wheat varieties that are superior to existing varieties. This effort includes all market classes of spring and winter wheat and all precipitation regions in Washington state.	Over 1500 breeding samples were analyzed by numerous milling and baking quality tests in 2015. This is a substantial increase over previous years and has allowed enhanced selection of advanced breeding lines with good quality. Three new wheat varieties were released using this project and data.	The economic return for this work will manifest itself each breeding cycle with superior quality varieties and germplasm.	Progress will be summarized and discussed at numerous field days (>10 per year), grower meetings (~10 per year), the annual Research Review, through WSCIA meetings, Wheat Life, Variety Release Meetings, and direct communication with the WGC every year. Graduate student Kendre Jernigan won the Crop Science Society of America research poster award competition in 2015 summarizing this work.
Support genetic analysis of end-use quality to identify desirable alleles and to predict end-use quality through new genotyping methods	Improved germplasm selection procedures which translate to more efficient, cost-effective, and consistent genetic gain for end-use quality.	Over 400 winter wheat lines that have been genotyped with 90K SNPs were evaluated for milling and baking. Milling and baking analysis of a bi-parental winter wheat mapping population has also been substantially completed. Eleven loci for nine different quality traits were identified in the soft white winter wheat panel and a manuscript is being submitted. This data may also be used to help predict quality before conducting any quality tests. This would be a huge advantage in variety development	The reward for this work will compound each year and will fully be realized for many years to come as these lines continue to be crossed into existing breeding lines. We expect this effort to result in routine selection of outstanding quality wheat.	

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