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Project Title: Uniform Fungicide Trials for Control of Fusarium Head Blight.

PROJECT 1 ABSTRACT

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Fusarium head blight has been a devastating disease in many wheat-producing regions of North America. No one approach to management of the disease has been effective. Successful management will likely require a combination of several management practices: crop rotation, host resistance, and chemical or biological control. Because of the inconsistency of performance of many fungicides in the field, a uniform trial was organized. Workers in several states in the Corn Belt and upper Midwest apply the same set of treatments to locally adapted cultivars of wheat or barley. This project is part of that cooperative effort. We will conduct one trial in west-central Indiana, under mist irrigation, and another trial in southeast Indiana where weather is often naturally favorable for head blight. In addition to the core set of treatments, agreed to by participants during the annual Scab Forum, additional treatments will be applied at other growth stages, to evaluate the effect of minor differences in fungicide application timing on efficacy. Efficacy of all treatments will be judged by intensity of symptoms in the field, grain yield, test weight, kernel weight, incidence of scabby kernels, and DON levels.

This work is intended to identify fungicides that will provide an effective and economical disease management option for farmers. It will also provide data in support of federal registration of effective fungicides.