



U.S. Wheat & Barley
Scab Initiative

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 28, 2007

TO: Scab Community

FROM: Dave Van Sanford and Tom Anderson
Co-Chairs, USWBSI

RE: Update: DON Testing Services

The USWBSI Steering Committee (SC) decided last spring that it would be desirable to have the same or very similar technology in all of the DON testing labs. Last summer the NFO requested proposals for the purchase of a GC/MS instrument for DON testing. All of the existing labs were invited to submit proposals; only one did. The proposals were reviewed by the Food Safety, Toxicology and Utilization RAC, and they made an unequivocal recommendation to the Executive Committee. The EC accepted the RAC's recommendation and a new GC instrument was purchased and installed in the laboratory of Dr. Yanhong Dong at the University of Minnesota. In the future, samples that were previously sent to Michigan State University should be sent to the University of Minnesota. Protocols and instructions for doing this will be sent out and posted on the website soon.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by this decision.