

## **Summary of the 1999 National Fusarium Head Blight Forum Barley Breakout Session**

Participants attending the breakout meeting were Don Rasmusson, Kevin Smith, and Kent Evans from the University of Minnesota; Linnea Skoglund from Busch Agricultural Resources, Inc.; and Paul Schwarz, Uwe Scholz, and Rich Horsley from North Dakota State University. Topics discussed during the meeting included the MinnDak uniform FHB nursery and the proposed cooperative agreement between CIMMYT and the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative (USWBSI). The group agreed that cooperation between CIMMYT and the USWBSI should be encouraged.

In discussions concerning the MinnDak nursery, the group decided that three non-irrigated, non-inoculated (dryland) sites should be added. Irrigated-inoculated nurseries currently are grown at Crookston and St. Paul, MN and Fargo and Langdon, ND. Two dryland sites will be added in North Dakota and one in Minnesota. Disease levels in the irrigated nurseries often are high and only the most resistant lines appear resistant. Lines with moderate levels of resistance can be overwhelmed with FHB in these nurseries and appear susceptible. Growers in the upper-Midwest do not experience as severe of conditions in their fields as are present in the irrigated-inoculated nurseries. Inclusion of dryland nurseries will allow us to screen lines under conditions similar to those in growers' fields.

The group also discussed the checks to be used and required notes to be taken in the MinnDak nursery. It was suggested that notes on days to heading, plant height, and days to maturity should be collected. However, because all of the projects overseeing nurseries have to travel over three hours to reach some of their nursery sites, it was concluded that only data on FHB severity and DON concentration would be collected. In nurseries where disease levels are low (e.g. dryland nurseries) disease incidence data also will be collected. Additional data collected from each nursery will be reported in the annual MinnDak report. Checks to be included in every MinnDak nursery are CIho 4196 (two-rowed resistant check), Chevron (six-rowed resistant check), Robust and Stander (susceptible six-rowed barley cultivars), MNBrite (moderately resistant six-rowed barley cultivar), and Conlon (moderately resistant two-rowed barley cultivar).