Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) levels on wheat vary each year in Indiana, but the disease is consistently present and of concern to growers in Indiana. Winter wheat fits well with rotations of corn and soybean, which are the major field crops in the state. Cultivars with moderate resistance to FHB do not always provide desirable levels of disease control in certain environments, and fungicides have become an important component in FHB and DON management plans in the region. An integrated approach that combines genetic resistance and fungicide application is desirable to achieve optimal management of FHB. Testing action thresholds for our climate are needed in order to provide informed fungicide spraying decisions. The proposed research would facilitate adoption of integrated FHB management to reduce losses from FHB in Indiana.

This research will serve as a location in a cooperative multi-state study comparing the effects of fungicide treatment for FHB and DON control across different environments and wheat types. The proposed research will be conducted at two sites: 1) the Purdue Agronomy Center for Research and Education in West Lafayette, Indiana and 2) the Southwest Purdue Agriculture Center, Vincennes, Indiana. Information from these research trials will improve recommendations for FHB and DON management for growers in Indiana. Information obtained from this research will also contribute to knowledge on integrated management of FHB across differential environmental locations in the Midwest.