

# Illinois Wheat Forum Set For February 15

**URBANA, ILL.**

The Illinois Wheat Association (IWA) will hold their annual Winter Wheat Forum on Monday, February 15, at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn, located off Interstate 57 at Exit 95. Exhibits open and registration starts at 8 a.m. The program runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Steve Ebelhar, agronomist at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Agricultural Center, will lead off the morning program with an update on the effects of maintaining wheat in rotations with corn and soybeans, the proper N management of wheat, and the interactions of fertility and fungicides for high wheat yield management.

Carl Bradley, University of Illinois Extension plant pathologist, will provide an overview of wheat diseases that have caused yield and quality losses to Illinois wheat. In many cases, the best management of these diseases must rely on multiple tools. This presentation will focus on major wheat diseases prevalent in Illinois, and will discuss their biology and the best management practices available.

The morning session will conclude with a 2009 ACRE update from Illinois Farm Bureau's Doug Yoder. The session will provide a look at several key areas of ACRE and a glimpse into 2009 ACRE performance. How many farms in Illinois signed up? What are the likely payouts under

ACRE this first year? If I didn't sign up in 2009, should I consider it in 2010? And, how does ACRE compare to revenue crop insurance?

The afternoon session will get underway with a panel discussion on "Biotech Wheat - Is It Right for the American Farmer?" The panel members include Carl Schwinke, Siemer Milling Co.; Jeffrey Koscelny, West-Bred/Monsanto; Greg Marshall, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.; and Eric Younggren, National Association of Wheat Growers. Listen to some reasons why biotech wheat should be available, along with some modified traits being considered, and a miller's perspective on how biotech wheat will affect the milling process.

The afternoon session will conclude with a market outlook for wheat, corn and soybeans by Darrel Good, from the University of Illinois, followed by the Wheat Association's Annual Meeting.

The registration fee, which includes lunch, is \$15 for IWA members and \$25 for non-members. Registration will be on-site; no advance registration is needed. Certified Crop Adviser credits will be available.

For more details, contact Lowell V. Lenschow, IWA executive secretary, 309/557-3662, [lenschow@ilfb.org](mailto:lenschow@ilfb.org). Or, visit the IWA website. Δ



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