

# Introducing Pembroke: With Farmer's Needs In Mind

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## **PRINCETON, KY.**

In May 2008, the Kentucky Small Grain Growers Association (KySGGA) and the University of Kentucky released a new variety of wheat. This Kentucky bred wheat is known as Pembroke. The seed, released late this summer, will allow farmers to produce wheat and then save the seeds for their own operations.

The University of Kentucky's Wheat Breeding Program under the direction of Dr. David Van Sanford developed Pembroke for Kentucky farmers.

When asked why he developed Pembroke Van Sanford stated, "Kentucky growers indicated an interest in accessing competitive genetics rapidly and without a great deal of paperwork and

hassle."

According to the the KySGGA website, Pembroke will provide a lower-cost seed option, deliver reliable genetics to Kentucky producers, and increase the return on investment of small grain check-off dollars.

"My hope, is that this method of variety release will be a win-win for Kentucky wheat growers and the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station (KAES). Growers should be able to take the variety and grow it with a minimal or no paper trail and it will provide the KAES with a mechanism for filling the growers' needs," said Van Sanford.

The seeds are being sold in units of 50 lbs at \$25 each. Farmers can choose to buy the seeds in 50 lbs bags or 2,000 lb totes from distributors around the state of Kentucky.     Δ