

NOTES

NORQUAY HARD WHITE SPRING WHEAT

Norquay (*Triticum aestivum* L.) is a semi-dwarf, awned, white-seeded cultivar developed by the Plant Science Department, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man. It is a high yielding, early maturing variety eligible for the Canada Utility grades.

As indicated in Table 1, Norquay (identified as NB106 in Co-operative Trials) is considerably higher yielding than Neepawa and is slightly superior to Glenlea.

Origin

The cultivar was derived from the cross (Lerma Rojo × Sonora 64) × Justin. The cross was made in 1966 at the University of Manitoba and subsequent segregating generations were grown alternately in Mexico and Winnipeg with selections made by the pedigree method, including early generation yield testing. Replicated yield trials were conducted from 1970 to 1973 including 3 years in the Utility Wheat Co-operative tests.

Description

SPIKE — Awned, semi-lax, erect, glumes, glabrous and white.

KERNEL — White, small to mid-size, short to mid-long, mid-wide to wide, ovate to oval, crease narrow to mid-wide, mid-deep, brush small and short.

STRAW. Semi-dwarf and very strong.

DISEASE REACTION. Resistant to prevalent races of stem rust (*Puccinia graminis tritici* Eriks & Henn.), moderately resistant to leaf rust (*P. recondita* Rob.), resistant to root rot, head discoloration and bunt (*Tilletia caries* (D.C.) Tul.), susceptible to loose smut (*Ustilago tritici* (Pers.) Rostr.).

ADAPTATION. — An early-maturing cultivar with good drought tolerance. Well adapted to all parts of the Prairie Provinces. Subject to sprouting and more susceptible to shattering than awnless cultivars.

Seed Distribution and Maintenance

Norquay was licensed for sale in Canada in 1974 by the Production and Marketing Branch of Agriculture Canada. Approximately 910 hectoliters (2,500 bu) of pedigreed seed was made available to seed growers in the three Prairie Provinces. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Plant Science Department, University of Manitoba.

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Table 1. Yield comparison of Norquay, Glenlea, Pitic 62 and Neepawa (1971-1973)

Test	Norquay	Glenlea qu/ha	Pitic 62	Neepawa
1971 Utility Wheat Co-operative (12-station avg.)	47.7	46.0	48.0	38.9
1972 Utility Wheat Co-operative (14-station avg.)	39.2	39.2	42.1	33.4
1973 Utility Wheat Co-operative (15-station avg)	32.5	31.9	30.5	26.6
1972 Manitoba Zonation Trials (5-station avg)	43.5	42.7	-	34.0
1973 Manitoba Zonation Trials (9-station avg)	41.0	37.9	-	30.4
55-station yr average	39.9	38.8	-	32.1
% of Neepawa	124	121	-	100

Although superior to Glenlea in baking quality, Norquay is inferior to Marquis (the quality standard) and is not eligible for the 1 C.W. and 2 C.W. grades.