

SCEPTRE DURUM WHEAT

Sceptre is an early-maturing, high-yielding durum wheat (*Triticum turgidum* L.). Although it is not a semi-dwarf, it has relatively short, strong straw. Sceptre has good pasta-making quality.

Key words: Cultivar description, wheat (durum), *Triticum turgidum*

[Blé dur Sceptre.]

Titre abrégé: Blé dur Sceptre.

Sceptre est un blé dur précoce à rendement élevé (*Triticum turgidum* L.). Même s'il ne s'agit pas d'un cultivar semi-nain, il se caractérise par une tige relativement courte et forte. Sceptre présente une bonne qualité pastière.

Mots clés: Description de cultivar, blé dur, *Triticum turgidum*

Origin and Breeding

Sceptre durum wheat (*Triticum turgidum* L.) was produced at the Department of Crop Science and Plant Ecology at the University of Saskatchewan from the cross D72110/Coulter. D72110 is a North Dakota line from the cross 68111/Ward. Sceptre was given Sask. no. S7915 and was tested in the Durum Wheat Cooperative Tests from 1982 to 1984 as DT380. License no. 2549 was issued for Sceptre on 5 July 1985.

The F₂ to F₄ of the cross were grown as spaced plants in nurseries inoculated with leaf and stem rust (*Puccinia recondita* Rob. ex Desm. and *Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici* Eriks. and Henn., respectively). Single heads were taken from plants selected for rust resistance, short strong straw, earliness and vigor. The selected F₂ and F₃ heads were threshed in bulk and a random sample was planted for the next generation. Heads from the F₄ plants were threshed individually and an F₅ head row was grown from each. The best rows were selected visually, harvested, and then tested and selected for protein content, pigment level and SDS sedimentation. The final selections were entered in yield tests and the best one eventually became Sceptre.

Performance and Adaptation

Sceptre is an early-maturing cultivar that is

relatively short and strong-strawed, although it is not a semi-dwarf (Table 1). It has a moderately low 1000-kernel weight, although it is similar to Wakooma. Sceptre has yielded 5.6% and 7.8% more than Medora and Wakooma, respectively, in the Black Soil zones, and 1.7% more than Medora and 0.6% less than Wakooma in the Brown Soil zones. It is similar to other durum wheat cultivars in disease resistance, except that it is more susceptible to loose smut (although similar to Medora). Sceptre provides a good combination of earliness, straw strength and yield, and should be well adapted to the durum growing area of the prairies.

Description

SPIKES. Oblong, dense, erect, pronounced waxy bloom; glumes medium width and length, glabrous, prominent basal fold; shoulders narrow, oblique; beak medium width, acute.

KERNELS. Amber, hard, medium length and width, ovate, angular cheeks; brush small with short hairs; germ medium size, oval; crease wide, medium depth.

STRAW. Relatively short (not a semi-dwarf) and strong, hollow internodes, upper internode waxy, neck medium thick and slightly curved.

MATURITY. Early, slightly later than Hercules and Arcola.

Table 1. Agronomic performance of Sceptre in the Durum Wheat Cooperative Tests, 1984-1984

Character	Number of tests	Cultivar			
		Hercules	Wakooma	Medora	Sceptre
Yield (kg ha ⁻¹)					
Black soils	15	3640	4000	4080	4310
Brown soils	15	—	3520	3440	3500
Maturity (d)	26	99	101	100	99
Height (cm)	30	94	99	95	87
Lodging†	18	2.3	4.1	2.0	1.8
1000-kernel wt. (g)	32	45.3	40.9	42.7	40.5
Test weight (kg hL ⁻¹)	32	82.8	81.8	82.8	82.0

†1 = no lodging, 9 = severe lodging.

DISEASE REACTION. Generally similar to other durum wheat cultivars; resistant to leaf rust, stem rust and bunt (*Tilletia caries* (D.C.) Tul.); moderately susceptible to common root rot (*Cochliobolus sativus* Ito and Kurib.); susceptible to loose smut (*Ustilago tritici* (Pers.) Rostr.).

QUALITY. Good, eligible for the top durum grades.

Breeder's seed will be maintained by the Department of Crop Science and Plant Ecology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 0W0. Maintenance and distribution of pedigreed seed stocks will be

handled by SeCan Association, 512-885 Meadowlands Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3N2.

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