

Snowwhite476 hard white spring wheat

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Knox, R. E., DePauw, R. M., Clarke, J. M., Clarke, F. R., McCaig, T. N. and Fernandez, M. R. 2007. **Snowwhite476 hard white spring wheat**. *Can. J. Plant Sci.* **87**: 521–526. Snowwhite476 hard white spring wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) is the first Canadian wheat cultivar to deploy the gene Bt8, which confers resistance to prevalent races of common bunt [*Tilletia laevis* Kuhn in Rabenh. and *T. caries* (DC.) Tul. & C. Tul.]. The productivity traits of Snowwhite476 were intermediate to the check cultivars. Snowwhite476 had intermediate kernel hardness combined with yellow alkaline and white salted noodle colour and textural attributes comparable to AC Vista.

Key words: *Triticum aestivum* L., cultivar description, grain yield, disease resistance, Bt8

Knox, R. E., DePauw, R. M., Clarke, J. M., Clarke, F. R., McCaig, T. N. et Fernandez, M. R. 2007. **Le blé dur blanc de printemps Snowwhite476**. *Can. J. Plant Sci.* **87**: 521–526. Snowwhite476 est une variété de blé dur blanc de printemps (*Triticum aestivum* L.). Il s'agit du premier cultivar de blé canadien à incorporer le gène Bt8 qui lui confère la résistance aux races courantes de la carie [*Tilletia laevis* Kuhn in Rabenh. et *T. caries* (DC.) Tul. & C. Tul.]. Snowwhite476 a un rendement intermédiaire à celui des cultivars témoins. La variété se caractérise par un grain de dureté moyenne dont la couleur rappelle le jaune alcalin et le blanc des nouilles salées. Sa texture est comparable à celle de AC Vista.

Mots clés: *Triticum aestivum* L., description de cultivar, rendement grainier, résistance à la maladie, Bt8

Snowwhite476, hard white spring wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.), was developed at the Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre (SPARC), Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Swift Current, SK. It received interim registration No. 319 from the Variety Registration Office, Plant Production Division, Canadian Food Inspection Agency on 2006 May 5.

Pedigree and Breeding Method

Snowwhite476 derives from the backcross HY393/HY423//5*HY393 to incorporate Bt8, which confers resistance to prevalent races of common bunt [*Tilletia laevis* Kuhn in Rabenh., and *T. caries* (DC.) Tul. & C. Tul.] (Goates 1996). HY393 is a white-seeded experimental line which expressed high grain yield, high milling yield, medium strong gluten properties, hard kernels, and moderate susceptibility to common bunt (DePauw et al. 1992). HY423 is an experimental line (DePauw et al. 1995) that derives from the transfer of the Bt8 gene from a winter wheat common bunt differential genotype into HY358 by partial backcrossing (Thomas et al. 1989). The final cross was made in 1997 at SPARC, AAFC. The BC₅F₁ seed was inoculated with common bunt race T19 (Hoffmann and Metzger 1976) and grown as individual plants in the greenhouse. BC₅F₂ seed from uninfected heads were grown in the greenhouse and as

head-rows in an out of season nursery near Lincoln, New Zealand to multiply seed for subsequent testing. BC₅F₃ lines were screened for quantitative and qualitative traits by conducting a replicated trial near Swift Current, SK, and single replicate trials near Indian Head, SK, and near Portage La Prairie, MB. Also, 100 seeds of each BC₅F₃ line were inoculated with common bunt races T19 and L16 and grown in a bunt nursery near Swift Current from which bunt-free heads were collected for inbreeding in an out of season nursery. Reaction to leaf rust (*Puccinia triticina* Eriks.) and stem rust (*P. graminis* Pers.:Pers. f.sp. *tritici* Eriks. & E. Henn.) was measured in an epiphytotic nursery near Glenlea, Manitoba. A sample of seed from the grain yield trial composites was used to assess grain quality and kernel characteristics. Thirty BC₅F₄ families, at five selections per family were grown near Irwell, New Zealand, in a contra season nursery. One hundred and seven BC₅F₅ lines were evaluated in trials similar to the BC₅F₃ generation. Twelve selected BC₅F₆ lines were screened in the greenhouse with common bunt race T19.

One of the 12 selected experimental lines, P9711-PAE03B1, was evaluated in the High Yield Wheat 'A' test 2000, and as HY476 in the High Yield Wheat Cooperative test from 2001 to 2003. The check cultivars in the High Yield Wheat Cooperative test for the three year period were AC Vista, AC Crystal, and AC2000. AC Barrie was also a check cultivar in 2001. 5701HR was a check cultivar in 2002 and 2003, while Snowbird was a check cultivar in 2003. The variables measured and the protocols followed in

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the High Yield Wheat Cooperative test have been described by Graf and Fox (2000). The PROC MIXED procedure was used to analyze the data each year and to perform a combined analysis over years, using a mixed model with environments and replications considered random and genotypes considered fixed (SAS Institute, Inc. 1999).

During the High Yield Wheat Cooperative testing period, leaf and stem rust seedling infection types were assessed in a greenhouse by pathologists at the Cereal Research Centre, AAFC, Winnipeg, MB. Stem rust races used each year were: QTHST (C25), RHTSK (C20), RKQSR (C63), RTHJT (C57), TMRTK (C10), and TPMKR (C53) (Roelfs and Martens 1988; Fetch 2003). Leaf rust races used each year were: MBDS (12-3), MBRJ (128-1), MGBJ (74-2), and TBJJ (77-2) (McCallum and Seto-Goh 2003). Field evaluations of leaf and stem rust reactions at the adult plant stage using leaf rust races representative of those found the previous years and the same stem rust races as for the seedling tests were measured in an epiphytotic nursery near Glenlea, MB. Reaction to fusarium head blight caused by *Fusarium graminearum* Schwabe [teleomorph *Gibberella zae* (Schwein. Petch)] was assessed in artificially inoculated field tests conducted near Glenlea and Carman, MB (Yang et al. 2005). To determine the response to loose smut [*Ustilago tritici* (Pers.) Rostr.] a mixture of the prevalent races T2, T9, T10 and T39 (Nielsen 1987) was injected at anthesis into florets of plants grown in the field, and seed off the inoculated plants was grown in a greenhouse to determine disease reaction. To determine the response to common bunt, a mixture of prevalent races L1, L16, T1, T6, T13 and T19 was used to inoculate the seed planted in mid-April of each year near Lethbridge, Alberta. Response to leaf spots [caused by *Pyrenophora tritici-repentis* (Died.) Drechs., *Phaeosphaeria nodorum* (E. Muller) Hedjaroude, *Mycosphaerella graminicola* (Fuckel) J. Schrot. in Cohn (anamorph *Septoria tritici* Roberge in Desmaz.), and *Cochliobolus sativus* (Ito & Kuribayashi) Drechs. ex

Dastur] was determined by scoring leaf area infected on naturally inoculated plots grown near Swift Current, SK, following procedures described by Fernandez et al. (1996).

End-use suitability was determined on a composite sample made up of unequal quantities from those sites that met the top grades for the market class of the check cultivars and that would generate a composite with a protein concentration deemed to be representative of the spring wheat crop. All end-use suitability analyses were performed at the Grain Research Laboratory, Canadian Grain Commission following protocols of the American Association of Cereal Chemists. Polyphenol oxidase activity was measured using catechol as a substrate (Hatcher and Kruger 1993). Texture measurements on cooked noodles were measured using an TA-ST2i instrument (Oh et al. 1983; Kruger et al. 1994). Determination of kernel attributes and eligibility to meet grades of Canada Western Hard White Spring and Canada Prairie Spring White wheat market class was done by the Inspection Division, Canadian Grain Commission.

Performance

Based on 44 replicated trials over 3 yr (2001–2003), Snowwhite476 yielded grain within the range of the checks, except for AC Vista which had significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) higher grain yield in Zone 2 (Table 1). In 2003, Snowwhite476 yielded 6.1% more grain than Snowbird ($P \leq 0.05$). Snowwhite476 matured 2 days later than AC Vista, and about the same time as AC2000 averaged over 3 yr, and about 2 d later than Snowbird in 2003 (Table 2). Snowwhite476 expressed slightly taller plant height than any of the checks but was 6 cm shorter than Snowbird. Snowwhite476 had straw strength intermediate to that of AC Crystal and AC Vista. Snowwhite476 had heavier test weight than AC Vista, similar to AC2000 and lighter than Snowbird. Snowwhite476 had seed size intermediate to that of AC2000 and AC Vista and larger than Snowbird.

Table 1. Mean grain yield, Least Significant Difference (LSD) and number of test sites of Snowwhite476 compared with the check cultivars, based on data from the High Yield Wheat Cooperative tests from 2001–2003

Cultivar	Zone 1 ^z			Zone 2			Zone 3			Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Mean
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003	2001–2003			
AC Barrie ^y	3231 ^x			2911			3987						
AC Taber	3185	3345	4810	3261	3421	2310	4749	3436	5361	3784	2916	4464	3592
AC Vista	3599	4170	5356	3376	3645	2546	4585	3017	5548	4370	3243	4345	3892
AC2000	3367	4084	4904	3357	3424	2307	4916	3859	5685	4122	2960	4797	3805
5701PR ^w		3951	4834		3183	2004		3123	5542				
Snowbird ^v			4593			2187			4815				
Snowwhite476	3300	3797	4632	2950	3258	2314	4265	3351	5402	3903	2856	4332	3574
LSD ^u	436	653	411	315	556	213	501	561	434	528	347	474	275
No. tests	5	5	5	6	6	6	3	4	4	15	18	11	44

^zZone 1, near Brandon, Glenlea, Rosemank, Souris, MB, and Indian Head, SK; Zone 2, near Irricana, AB, Kernen, Regina, Scott, Stewart Valley, Swift Current, SK; Zone 3, near Beaverlodge, Lacombe, AB, and Lake Lenore and Melfort, SK.

^yAC Barrie grown as a check in 2001 only.

^xAll means are weighted by the number of tests within a zone.

^w5701PR grown as a check in 2002 and 2003.

^vSnowbird grown as a check in 2003.

^uLeast significant difference, $P \leq 0.05$, includes variation from the genotype by environment interaction.

Table 2 Means, Least Significant Difference (LSD) and number of test sites for agronomic performance traits of Snowwhite476 compared with the check cultivars, based on data from the High Yield Wheat Cooperative tests (2001–2003)

cultivar	Maturity (d)		Height (cm)		Lodging ^z (1–9)		Test weight (kg hL ⁻¹)		Seed size (mg)	
	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003
AC Crystal	98.5	98.8	72.1	73.2	2.1	2.8	77.8	78.4	37.5	38.0
AC Vista	95.7	96.7	73.8	75.0	2.4	3.0	76.3	76.8	39.9	39.9
AC2000	97.9	98.9	72.4	73.7	1.6	2.3	77.2	77.9	35.8	36.6
5701PR	95.8		70.9		1.8		76.4		38.2	
Snowwhite476	97.7	98.5	75.8	77.3	2.2	2.9	77.2	77.7	38.6	39.1
LSD ^y	1.3	1.0	2.1	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.6	1.5	1.1
No. tests	26	40	29	41	7	10	31	44	31	44

^zStraw strength rated on a scale of 1 indicating that all plants in plot are erect to 9 indicating that all plants in a plot are lying horizontal.

^yLeast significant difference, $P \leq 0.05$, includes variation from the genotype by environment interaction.

Table 3. Disease reactions of Snowwhite476 and check cultivars, based on data from High Yield Wheat Cooperative trials (2001–2003)

Cultivar	Leaf rust ^z			Stem rust ^z		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
AC Crystal	35MRMS	60MS	40 R-MS	2RMR	20MR	10 RMR
AC Vista	45MRMS	80S	33 R-MS	3RMR	5RMR	3 R
AC2000	45MRMS	70S	48 MS-S	3RMR	20MRMS	10 RMR
5701PR		Tr R	0 R		1R	tr R
Snowbird ^y			13 RMR			1R
Snowwhite476	45MRMS	50MS	20 MR-MS	1R	1R	tr R

Cultivar	Common bunt ^z			Loose smut ^z		
	2001	2002 ^x	2003	2001	2002	2003
AC Crystal	1 R	0 R	0 VR		13 MR	71MS
AC Vista	2 R	0 R	0 VR		2 R	78 S
AC2000	0 R	0 R	0 VR	0 R	38 I	41 I
5701PR		0 R	2 R		0 R	40 I
Snowbird			8 I			13 R
Snowwhite476	1 R	0 R	1 R	25 MR	0 R	38 I

Cultivar	Fusarium head blight									
	2001		2002				2003			
	Glenlea		Glenlea		Carman		Glenlea		Carman	Ottawa
	Index ^w	Reac ^v	Index	Reac	Index	Reac	Index	Reac	Index	Index
AC Crystal	64	S	45	I	39	S	65	S	72	68
AC Vista	38	MS	77	S	40	S	52	S	41	75
AC2000	48	S	50	I	15	I	53	S	40	52
5701PR			69	S	56	S	57	S	46	60
Snowbird							31	MS	19	30
Snowwhite476	60	S	56	MS	32	S	43	S	48	51

Identity	2001			2002		
	Regina ^t	<i>P. nodorum</i>	<i>M. graminicola</i>	Indian Head ^s	Swift Current ^r	<i>C. sativus</i> ^q
AC Crystal	7.3	10.9	10.0	9.8	8.3	–
AC Vista	7.0	10.0	11.0	9.5	8.0	41.7
AC2000	7.5	10.0	10.3	9.8	8.8	45.8
5701PR	–	–	–	9.5	7.5	20.2
Snowbird	–	–	–	–	–	–
Snowwhite476	7.8	10.0	10.0	9.0	8.5	41.2

^zPercent infection and type of reaction: Tr, trace; VR, very resistant; R, resistant; MR, moderately resistant; I, intermediate resistant; MS, moderately susceptible; S, susceptible.

^ySnowbird included as a check in 2003 only.

^xDue to low infection levels bunt ratings in 2002 may not be indicative of reaction.

^wFHB Disease index = (%infected spikelets on infected spikes x % infected spikes)/100.

^vResponse category: I, intermediate resistant; MS, moderately susceptible; S, susceptible.

^wMcFadden scale; 5 = R; 6 = MR; 7 = I; 8–9 = MS; 10–11 = S.

^sPercent isolation of the main leaf spotting pathogens: *Septoria avenae* f. sp. *triticea* 45%, *Pyrenophora tritici-repentis* 28%, *M. graminicola* 17%, *P. nodorum* 5%, *Cochliobolus sativus* 4%.

^rPercent isolation of the main leaf spotting pathogens: *P. tritici-repentis* 62%, *P. nodorum* 19%, *M. graminicola* 3%, *C. sativus* 16%.

^tPercent isolation of the main leaf spotting pathogens: *P. tritici-repentis* 38%, *P. nodorum* 57%, *M. graminicola* 5%, *C. sativus* 5%.

^q*C. sativus* composite rating: percent of disease lesion coverage on flag and middle canopy leaves. The single value derives from a weighted score of 60%*(flag leaf coverage) plus 40%*(mid canopy coverage).

Table 4. Means and standard deviations of end-use suitability^z traits of Snowwhite476 and check-cultivars, based on High Yield Wheat Co-operative tests (2001–2003)

Cultivar	Wheat protein (%)		Flour protein (%)		Flour yield (%)		Flour colour Agtron	
	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003
AC Crystal	13.1	13.0	12.4	12.2	74.8	75.1	74.8	76.3
AC Vista	13.3	13.3	12.2	12.2	73.8	74.3	76.4	76.6
AC2000	13.1	13.0	12.3	12.2	75.2	75.8	81.5	82.8
5701PR ^y	13.7		13.0		75.8		80.0	
Snowwhite476	13.4	13.4	12.7	12.5	75.2	75.8	80.5	81.0
Std. dev. ^x	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.34	.034	0.9	0.9
	Flour ash (%)		Amylograph viscosity (BU)		Hagberg falling no. (s)		Starch damage (megazm)	
	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003
AC Crystal	0.42	0.43	660	712	363	378	6.5	6.5
AC Vista	0.43	0.43	600	652	405	412	9.1	9.2
AC2000	0.43	0.44	520	603	340	367	7.4	7.3
5701PR	0.39		568		325		7.0	
Snowwhite476	0.43	0.43	543	632	370	387	7.8	8.0
Std. dev.	0.005	0.005	5	5	15	15	0.08	0.08
Farinograph								
	Absorption (%)		DDT ^w (min.)		Stability (min.)			
	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003		
AC Crystal	62.7	62.5	6.6	6.7	8.8	8.7		
AC Vista	70.3	70.5	5.5	5.5	6.3	6.2		
AC2000	66.0	65.8	5.1	5.1	7.5	7.3		
5701PR	63.9		9.9		25.5			
Snowwhite476	70.2	70.1	5.4	5.3	6.8	6.8		
Std. dev.	0.17	0.17	0.4	0.4	1.4	1.4		
Canadian short process (150 ppm ascorbic acid)								
	Loaf volume (cc)		Mixing time (min.)		Absorption (%)			
	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003	2002–2003	2001–2003		
AC Crystal	878	868	2.9	2.9	64.5	64.3		
AC Vista	778	783	2.4	2.5	66.0	66.0		
AC2000	813	813	2.4	2.3	64.0	64.0		
5701PR	1005		3.1		65.5			
Snowwhite476	818	818	1.9	2.0	65.5	65.7		
Std. dev.	45	45	0.3	0.3	0	0		

^zAmerican Association of Cereal Chemists methods were followed by the Grain Research Laboratory, Canadian Grain Commission for determining the various end-use suitability traits on a composite of 6 to 10 locations each year.

^y5701PR was included as a check for end-use suitability in 2002 and 2003.

^x Std. dev. is the standard deviation based on repeated testing of Allis mill check samples, and standard bake flour sample with replicate tests carried out over an extended period of time each season, provided by GRL, CGC.

^wDDT is the Farinograph dough development time.

Other Characteristics

SPIKES: Tapering to oblong, mid-dense, mid-long to long, inclined to nodding, awned; glumes mid-wide to wide, mid-long to long, glabrous, white; glume shoulder primarily square to elevated with some sloping; glume beak short to mid-long.

KERNEL: Color white; large to mid-large, long; mid-wide, elliptical to ovate, cheeks angular to rounded; brush hairs mid-long; crease mid-wide to wide, shallow to mid-deep; germ mid-size to large, oval.

SHATTERING: Resistant to seed shelling due to wind.

DISEASE REACTION: Resistant to prevalent races of common bunt and stem rust; moderately resistant to loose smut, intermediate resistance to prevalent races of leaf rust, and mod-

erately susceptible to leaf spots, and susceptible to fusarium head blight (Table 3).

END-USE SUITABILITY: Snowwhite476 performed within the range of the check cultivars for milling, flour, and baking properties with the exception of gluten strength as measured by the farinograph (Table 4). The kernel hardness, as measured by starch damage, was not as hard as AC Vista, which has excessively hard kernel texture. Yellow alkaline and white salted noodle brightness and yellowness and textural attributes were comparable to the check cultivars (Table 5).

Maintenance and Distribution of Pedigreed Seed

Snowwhite476 consists of a composite of 124 Breeder Lines selected from BC₅F₃-derived BC₅F₇ random single plants grown out as 144 Breeder-Lines in 3-m-long rows in isolation near Swift Current in 2002 and again as 15-m rows near

Table 5. Attributes of kanusi and white salted noodles made from flour of Snowwhite476 and check-cultivars, based on High Yield Wheat Wheat Co-operative test (2003)

cultivar	Raw yellow alkaline noodle colour ^z						Cooked noodle colour		
	L*2h	a*2h	b*2h	L*24h	a*24h	b*24h	L*	a*	b*
AC Crystal	77.4	-0.73	25.5	70.4	-0.15	26.0	69.8	-1.49	27.5
AC Vista	81.1	-1.01	27.1	74.7	-0.62	27.1	70.4	-1.59	30.6
AC 2000	80.1	-0.44	29.7	73.9	0.19	29.8	71.5	-1.89	30.7
5701PR	78.3	-0.68	28.0	71.5	-0.04	27.8	71.3	-1.65	29.1
Snowbird	78.9	-0.18	27.7	72.2	0.30	27.9	71.5	-1.98	25.8
Snowwhite476	81.1	-0.59	29.0	73.0	-0.26	29.0	72.3	-1.98	30.7

co-op	Raw white salted noodle colour						Cooked noodle colour		
	L*2h	a*2h	b*2h	L*24h	a*24h	b*24h	L*	a*	b*
AC Crystal	80.6	2.49	22.6	73.7	2.97	23.0	75.7	0.79	18.5
AC Vista	82.6	2.20	21.9	75.5	2.73	23.6	77.9	0.50	19.8
AC 2000	81.0	2.47	23.7	75.8	3.00	25.4	77.9	0.62	20.8
5701PR	81.3	2.39	23.5	73.4	2.36	23.2	77.8	0.57	19.9
Snowbird	80.7	2.42	21.8	74.0	2.87	23.4	78.5	0.44	18.5
Snowwhite476	82.5	2.38	24.1	75.9	2.99	24.3	78.1	0.54	20.3

	Yellow alkaline noodle texture ^y						White salted noodle texture			
	Flour protein	PPO ^x	Specks 24 h	Firmness (MCS)	Chewiness (RTC)	Recovery	Specks 24 h	Firmness (MCS)	Chewiness (RTC)	Recovery
AC Crystal	12.1	14.9	112	30.5	28.1	32.5	95	23.8	21.3	25.4
AC Vista	11.8	33.8	16	26.0	25.3	30.1	12	22.9	20.7	24.8
AC 2000	11.8	7.0	25	29.2	26.8	32.9	17	23.1	21.9	27.5
5701PR	12.4	14.9	48	29.3	25.1	31.6	72	28.2	20.4	27.3
Snowbird	13.6	0.0	22	33.0	27.8	34.8	11	26.5	21.8	28.4
Snowwhite476	12.1	17.8	27	27.6	26.8	31.5	19	23.0	21.3	26.2

^zColour measurements were conducted using a Hunterlab Spectrocolourimeter and reported in reflectance CIE colour scale.

^yTexture measurements using an TA-XT2i.

^xPolyphenol oxidase.

Indian Head in 2003. Breeder Seed will be maintained by the Seed Increase Unit of the Research Farm, Indian Head, Saskatchewan, Canada S0G 2K0. Application for Plant Breeders' Rights has been filed. The cultivar will be added to the OECD list of Cultivars. Snowwhite476 has been released for distribution and multiplication to FarmPure Seeds, 418B McDonald Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada S4N 6E1

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