

Extravagant claims and high seed prices, however, cannot add to or improve a variety's performance. **We would again point out that no variety now known has adequate resistance to Race 15B of stem rust. Varieties now being promoted in farm-to-farm sales offer no more protection against leaf rust than is available in the varieties now grown. There would seem to be no worth-while gain to come from the purchase of such seed, unless it is experience.**

SUMMARY

There appears to be no substantial basis for any large changes in variety recommendations for 1951. Mida and Rival seemingly should continue to have preference among the hard red spring wheats in the eastern and central parts of the state, with some increase for Rushmore, particularly in the southeastern and eastern counties. Thatcher should still have preference in northwestern North Dakota, with Pilot and Mida having a larger use in the central western counties.

Because the later ripening durums were injured more seriously by stem rust in 1950 than the common wheats, a shift from durum to common wheat is likely. On the basis of another rust threat, and the desire for an earlier ripening crop to "escape" injury from stem rust, this would appear to be somewhat justified in the marginal durum areas, where the advantage for durum in the normal years is not appreciable.

Would any large shift in acreage to common wheat in the better durum growing area be wise? The answer to that presumes knowing the conditions which will prevail in 1951. For instance, will a serious stem rust situation develop in 1951? If it does, will the injury to the two wheat classes differ as widely as it did in 1950? If rust does not occur, will the usually lower yield of the common wheat, or possible price differences, have justified the change? Is a heavy leaf rust infestation in 1951, with serious injury to common wheat, a smaller or greater possibility than a recurrence of stem rust?

Because so many questions are involved for which there is no answer now, the individual grower must determine for himself if any shift is advisable for him. If he continues to grow durum then Stewart should continue to have the largest preference in the northern durum area, followed by Mindum and Carleton. If an earlier ripening variety is desired a portion of the acreage could be sown to Venum or Nugget. Early sowing is also recommended, thus increasing the opportunity for a crop to "escape" damage from rust.

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