

Lee, Rushmore Forge Ahead in North Dakota Acreage¹

By C. J. Heltemes², L. W. Orvold³ and Burton B. Barr³

Lee, a hard red spring wheat, was the leading variety of wheat grown in North Dakota in 1954, according to a wheat varieties survey made by the North Dakota Crop Reporting Service in cooperation with the Field Crops Research Branch of the Agricultural Research Administration.

Mida, the leading variety five years ago, ranked second in 1954 while Mindum, Thatcher, and Rushmore followed in order. Five years ago the principal varieties were, in order, Mida, Thatcher, Stewart, Rival and Mindum. The hard red spring wheat class occupied 81.1 per cent of the state's total wheat acreage and durum, including red durum, accounted for 17.7 per cent compared with 72.1 and 27.8 respectively in 1949.

The four leading hard red spring varieties in North Dakota in 1954 were Lee, Mida, Thatcher, and Rushmore. They occupied 66.8 per cent of the total wheat acreage in the state. Mindum, with 13.0 of the state's acreage, was the leading durum variety.

Lee, a new variety introduced a few years ago, was grown on 31.7 per cent of the state's total wheat acreage in 1954. It was the predominant hard red spring variety in all sections of the state except the northwest and west central counties where it ranked second, and the southwestern sections, where it ranked fifth.

Mida, the leading variety in the late 1940's and early 1950's, ranked second in importance, occupying 13.8 per cent of the total wheat acreage in the state. In 1949 Mida accounted for 31.9 per cent of the state's wheat acreage. The acreage of Mida decreased sharply in 1954, as it proved susceptible to Race 15B black stem rust. In 1954 Mida was the leading variety only in the southwestern counties.

Thatcher, the third most important hard spring wheat variety, accounted for 10.9 per cent of the total wheat acreage and was the leading variety in the extreme northwest and west central districts and ranked second in the south central and third in the southwest.

Rushmore, the fourth leading hard spring wheat variety, accounted for 10.4 per cent of the state's total wheat acreage. Rushmore is a comparatively new variety and was unknown in the state in 1949. While Rushmore was not the leading variety in any district, it accounted for sizeable proportions in the southern and east central sections of the state. It ranked fifth in popularity among all wheats.

Other varieties of hard red spring wheat grown in the state in 1954 were as follows: Rival, 4.4 per cent; Cadet, 2.9 per cent; Rescue, 2.6 per cent; Redman, 1.3 per cent; Pilot, 0.8 per cent; Regent, 0.6 per cent and other 1.7 per cent.

Hard Red Winter Wheat and unknown varieties occupied 1.2 per cent of the all wheat acreage in 1954, compared with 0.1 per cent in 1949.

DURUM

North Dakota leads all states in the growing of durum wheat, accounting for 94.1 per cent of the nation's durum wheat acreage planted in 1954. Mindum was the chief variety with 13.0 per cent of the total all wheat acreage, followed by Stewart, with 2.7 per cent and Vernum with 1.0 per cent. Five years ago Stewart was the leading variety, having been introduced in 1944, and occupied 10.4 per cent of the state's total wheat acreage in 1949. In 1954 Mindum was the leading variety in all the major durum growing sections and Stewart ranked second. Kubanka accounted for 0.7 per cent of all wheat. Unknown varieties totaled only 0.3 per cent.

¹This federal census of grain varieties is made each five years, and this report contrasting, percentage-wise, wheat varieties grown in North Dakota in 1949 and 1954, has just been completed by the Agricultural Marketing Service.

²Agricultural Statistician in charge, North Dakota office of the U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service (formerly BAE).

³Agricultural Statistician, U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service.

TABLE I.—North Dakota Wheat Varieties: Percentage Distribution of Acreage Seeded in North Dakota for harvest in 1954.

	Crop Reporting Districts—1954									State	
	North west	North Central	North-east	West Central	Central	East Central	South-west	South Central	South-east	1954	1949
Hard Red Spring	97.1	65.5	46.6	98.5	83.3	92.1	97.4	99.7	85.8	81.1	72.1
Lee	23.7	26.8	33.3	17.9	38.3	68.9	11.4	24.9	43.8	31.7	.....
Mida	11.9	16.7	4.9	14.6	11.0	7.2	32.5	16.7	16.3	13.8	31.9
Thatcher	32.4	3.8	0.1	28.8	1.4	.....	11.9	21.3	.....	10.9	13.9
Rushmore	6.9	7.2	5.9	8.4	7.3	11.4	19.7	19.9	16.4	10.4	.....
Rival	0.8	6.4	0.8	0.8	24.5	2.3	0.3	1.4	6.7	4.4	10.0
Cadet	0.2	1.2	.....	9.4	0.2	.....	11.7	7.6	0.4	2.9	5.1
Rescue	10.2	.2	.....	8.5	0.2	0.3	0.8	2.3	0.1	2.6	2.0
Redman	3.2	1.3	0.5	3.6	.....	0.1	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.3	.4
Pilot .....	.....	0.2	.....	3.3	.....	0.2	4.4	0.3	.....	.8	1.8
Regent	0.2	.....	0.2	0.5	.....	.....	2.4	2.7	.....	.6	2.3
Other	2.6	1.7	0.9	2.7	0.4	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.7	4.7
Durum	2.4	32.8	51.5	0.1	15.9	7.7	.....	0.3	13.9	17.7	27.8
Mindum	0.2	21.6	44.0	.....	8.8	3.6	.....	.....	7.3	13.0	8.0
Stewart	0.9	8.3	4.7	0.1	0.7	1.4	.....	0.3	4.4	2.7	10.4
Vernum	0.4	1.1	1.0	.....	4.0	2.2	.....	.....	1.1	1.0	.1
Kubanka .....	.....	1.6	1.0	.....	2.2	0.2	.....	.....	0.4	.7	2.3
Other	0.9	0.2	0.8	.....	0.2	0.3	.....	.....	0.7	0.3	7.0
Hard Red Winter and Unknowns	0.5	1.7	1.9	1.4	0.8	0.2	2.6	.....	0.3	1.2	0.1

1954 Durum and Hard Wheat Production In North Dakota by Counties, in Bushels

County	Durum	Hard	Total
Adams	3,135	816,150	819,285
Barnes	56,023	2,092,393	2,148,416
Benson	215,740	790,123	1,005,863
Billings	900	235,004	235,904
Bottineau	249,152	2,188,728	2,437,880
Bowman	3,775	815,326	819,101
Burke	6,851	1,206,428	1,213,279
Burleigh	8,066	694,429	702,495
Cass	33,463	3,051,723	3,085,186
Cavalier	492,405	942,221	1,434,626
Dickey	52,079	390,136	442,215
Divide	593	1,684,219	1,684,812
Dunn	2,118	964,914	967,032
Eddy	63,173	225,893	289,066
Emmons	6	1,112,382	1,112,388
Foster	32,557	549,630	582,187
Golden Valley		939,518	939,518
Grand Forks	125,258	2,641,453	2,766,711
Grant	2,743	1,006,974	1,009,717
Griggs	32,215	692,403	724,618
Hettinger	3,535	1,554,582	1,558,117
Kidder	14,118	478,043	492,161
LaMoure	36,983	1,055,131	1,092,114
Logan	5,730	699,997	705,727
McHenry	75,458	1,274,876	1,350,334
McIntosh	1,064	788,957	790,021
McKenzie	265	1,510,188	1,510,453
McLean	12,800	2,058,103	2,070,903
Mercer	1,060	805,124	806,184
Morton	4,483	1,295,202	1,299,685
Mountrail	20,438	1,628,203	1,648,641
Nelson	215,255	413,816	629,071
Oliver	1,049	520,850	521,899
Pembina	100,251	2,676,655	2,776,906
Pierce	117,434	541,341	658,775
Ramsey	239,769	430,855	670,624
Ransom	55,708	424,640	480,348
Renville	16,558	1,418,393	1,434,951
Richland	24,421	1,030,006	1,054,427
Rolette	301,696	363,460	665,156
Sargent	120,126	426,376	546,502
Sheridan	2,524	597,458	599,982
Sioux		329,601	329,601
Slope	495	629,494	629,989
Stark	3,160	1,348,248	1,351,408
Steele	52,683	961,083	1,013,766
Stutsman	19,010	2,198,291	2,217,301
Towner	490,814	302,965	793,779
Traill	8,345	1,715,340	1,723,685
Walsh	312,684	2,428,689	2,741,373
Ward	48,951	2,426,711	2,475,662
Wells	144,470	862,778	1,007,248
Williams	15,399	2,461,997	2,477,396
TOTAL	3,846,988	60,697,500	64,544,488