

Trial 31

Advanced Wheat Variety Results 1996

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Aim: The advanced wheat variety experiment located at the 1996 BCDS site is one of ten similar variety experiments located throughout the Mallee. The Victorian wheat breeding program based at the Victorian Institute for Dryland Agriculture (VIDA) aims to develop, evaluate and release cultivars which maximise economic return to the farming community.

Crossbreds evaluated for release must be high yielding, disease resistant and possess good agronomic characteristics. Grain quality must meet the requirements of the market place. These requirements include wheats suitable for bread, noodles, biscuits, cakes, pastry, starch and gluten manufacture.

The breeding objectives include disease resistance, where resistance to stripe rust is mandatory, while the development of cultivars resistant to Cereal Cyst Nematode is a high priority. Agronomic characteristics such as time to maturity and lodging resistance are also very important, whilst the emphasis placed on yield and quality is very much a high priority.

Results: Excellent yields (up to 7.00t/ha), well above the average wheat yields expected for the Birchip area were recorded from the BCDS experiment in 1996 (sown 16/05/96). Table 1 provides a yield summary of a selection of the varieties and crossbreds that were evaluated at Birchip. Frost damage reduced yield potential of certain varieties notably Silverstar.

Table 1 Advanced Wheat Variety Experiment 1996

Cultivar	Yield (t/ha)	Average of 7 sites (t/ha)
Meering	5.54	3.07
Beulah	5.43	3.19
Dollarbird	3.54	2.31
Goroke	5.08	2.99
Janz	5.56	3.16
Machete	5.44	2.97
Ouyen	5.49	3.12
Rosella	6.53	3.18
Trident	6.22	3.45
Barunga	4.77	2.80
Frame	5.83	3.25
Yanac	5.59	3.12
Silverstar	4.34	3.05
Goldmark	5.93	3.20