

Kansas Wheat Harvest Report

This is Day 12 of the 2013 Kansas Wheat Harvest Reports, brought to you by the Kansas City Board of Trade, the Kansas Grain & Feed Association, the Kansas Wheat Commission and Kansas Association of Wheat Growers.

Harvesters were busy in the field throughout the Independence Day weekend, as the 2013 wheat harvest continues. While much of the crop has been better than what farmers expected, some of it is much worse.

Richard Kvasnicka, KAWG Director from Winona, says this harvest is the worst he's experienced in 40 years of farming. The crop ranged from 6 to 20 bushels per acre on ground that he harvested, but he abandoned 35% of his wheat acres due to drought. Test weight ranged from 57-60 pounds. Kvasnicka says some of his fields in Logan County have not yet had an inch of rain on them in this calendar year.

Shirley Zwegardt, grain merchandiser at the St. Francis Mercantile Equity Exchange, says harvest is about 50% complete; but she expects to receive only 35% of a normal year. She expects most yields to average 20 bushels per acre. Test weight averages 60 pounds per bushel. Early protein samples are over 14.

Jeff McNeely, manager of the Frontier Ag facility in Kanorado says harvest just started on Independence Day; early yields range from 8 to 30 bushels per acre. Test weights range from 55 to 61 pounds per bushel. McNeely says the area will harvest just 20% of a normal crop.

Ron Suppes, Kansas Wheat Commission chairman from Dighton, abandoned 40% of his acres. On the acres he did harvest, summer fallowed wheat ranged in yield from 8 to 45 bushels per acre, with a 25 bushel per acre average and test weights ranging from 61 to 63 pounds per bushel. Suppes grows all white wheat; Danby was the best performer on his farm.

Gary Millershaski, KAWG President from Lakin, says his wheat yields in Kearny County farms ranged from 12 to 24 bushels per acre and averaged in the teens. A hailstorm right before harvest knocked yields down even further. About 12% of the acreage was abandoned. In 30 years of farming, this was Millershaski's worst harvest.

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