



## Dedicated to enhancing the Productivity, Sustainability and Profitability of Wheat

Imagine irrigated wheat yields pushing 200 bushels per acre in the Pacific Northwest or dryland yields averaging 100 bushels per acre in Montana and the Great Plains. The breeding efforts that could help contribute to making this a reality are underway today at the WestBred breeding facilities across the United States.

Our focus is on delivering high-performing, locally adapted varieties of wheat across the United States. Every year, our breeding team evaluates thousands of candidates to deliver several new, specialized, proprietary varieties that meet the demands of growers and food processors.

Today, our wheat breeders are expanding their use of advanced breeding tools to more effectively mine our genetic library and speed up the overall breeding process. Breeders also are applying the lessons learned from other crops to further speed up wheat breeding advancements.

"We are confident that we will be able to greatly improve the yield potential of wheat," says Dr. Dale Clark, senior wheat breeder at the WestBred breeding station in Bozeman. "Some of the work I am most excited about are some of the efforts we have underway to improve protection against the Wheat Stem Sawfly, Fusarium Head Blight, Stripe Rust and Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus, which we know are major challenges for wheat growers"

The WestBred team also conducts work in-house and works with the milling and baking industry to verify the quality of new WestBred varieties. "The development of specialized, proprietary wheat varieties with desirable milling, color, gluten and protein characteristics have always been and will continue to be a priority", added Craig Cook, WestBred wheat breeder in Bozeman.

*Agriculture is a dynamic industry that continues to gain attention not only as a topic of interest but as part of the solution on a global stage. These are challenging but exciting times, and I can think of no better time to be in agriculture and no better time to be in wheat.*

*Wheat is an essential part of the global diet. As demand increases, we must find ways to ensure that wheat and wheat foods remain abundant and accessible while meeting the highest possible standards of quality and nutrition.*

*The WestBred group is excited to be part of this conversation and will continue to deliver new innovations to help improve the productivity and profitability of wheat.*

*Thank you for the opportunity to earn your business.*

**Anthony Osborne**  
Monsanto Global Wheat  
Business Development Lead

*"Planting high-quality seed varieties from your local seed professionals every year, in combination with other good management practices, is a smart investment. It's not only a great management tool, but also an investment in the productivity and sustainability of the U.S. wheat industry." stated Dr. Jeff Koscelny  
WestBred Commercial Lead*



# NDSU Forms Partnership with Monsanto to Develop Better Wheat Varieties

**N**orth Dakota State University (NDSU) and Monsanto have announced a collaboration that will allow both to improve their wheat breeding programs. The collaboration brings together the breeding research of Monsanto and NDSU to develop better wheat varieties.

“We are pleased and excited about this opportunity to accelerate our hard red spring wheat breeding program with this research partnership,” said Ken Grafton, NDSU vice president for Agricultural Affairs; Director of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station; and Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources. “Having our wheat improvement team utilize Monsanto’s advanced breeding technology tools is an important step in allowing the NDSU program to remain successful well into the future. And joint research projects to develop new breeding and genetic tools will improve the breeding efficiencies of our programs, with the ultimate goal of providing the best genetic material to the North Dakota wheat grower.”



“We are committed to delivering improvements in wheat through advancements in breeding and are pleased to be working with a public university that shares our commitment to enhancing the productivity of wheat,” added Anthony Osborne, Monsanto Wheat Business Development Lead. “Monsanto has a strong history of collaborating with universities and public sector institutions around the world.”

visit [westbred.com](http://westbred.com) to read more  
<https://www.westbred.com/Innovation/Pages/Partnership.aspx>



## Kim Shantz, Southwest Region Wheat Breeder, retires – Zewdie Abate hired

**A**fter more than thirty years of breeding Desert Durum, forage and grain varieties for the Southwestern United States, **Kim Shantz** made the decision to retire. Ask anyone that knows

Kim and you will likely get the response of “remarkable tenacity”. His perseverance and foresight led to a number of industry shifting milestones in quality, yield and other characteristics. All total, Kim’s outstanding breeding program led to the release of well over thirty varieties which included such notable varieties as **WB881**, **ORITA**, **JOAQUIN**, and more recently **WB-MEAD**, **WB-MOHAVE** and **WB-JOAQUIN ORO**. The WestBred group will certainly miss Kim’s presence and “can-do” spirit but want to take this opportunity to wish him the best as he embraces this next phase of his life.

**Dr. Zewdie Abate** joins the WestBred Breeding Team to take on the challenge of breeding for the Southwestern United States. Zewdie, PhD wheat breeder, brings many years of experience in both traditional and molecular breeding method skills and has spent the last few years of his career screening for resistance to different wheat diseases with an emphasis on Yellow (Stripe) Rust. The WestBred group is excited and welcomes Zewdie to our team.

*Please welcome the newest member of the WestBred team – Jenna Neumann.*

*Jenna is the WestBred Operations Specialist. Have questions? You can contact Jenna throughout the growing season at 314-694-9187.*



## WestBred Continues to Cultivate Thriving Wheat Varieties

It is the people and the process behind WestBred wheat varieties that produce the superior results you have come to expect. By attentively nurturing each step of the product life cycle, only the best seed candidates advance to a profitable crop in your fields. Let me explain how...

Product Advancement is a critical stage in the life of a wheat variety, where science becomes a reality. Our breeding team, researchers and our production and commercial experts carefully prepare and review the performance data to select the best-in-class prospects to meet the diverse and demanding needs of the market.

The ultimate advancement decision is guided by decades of combined WestBred and Monsanto experience in assessing and developing agronomic distinctiveness and

quality product characteristics. This is where superior crop yield and sustainability come together with high protein content, test weight, and pest and disease resistance.

In our pursuit to deliver excellence to the marketplace, criteria-based decisions are made with end goals in mind. Once the final decision is made to advance a new variety to the commercial stage, we make every attempt to pass the necessary information on to market.

But, that is not all. We continue to follow and assess each stage of the products' life cycle into the future. This is how the people and the processes behind our varieties have earned trust time and time again. We strive to deliver high quality wheat varieties and humbly ask for the continued opportunity for your business.

**Violetta Kessler**  
Product Manager

## Newly Released WestBred Varieties

### PNW Region

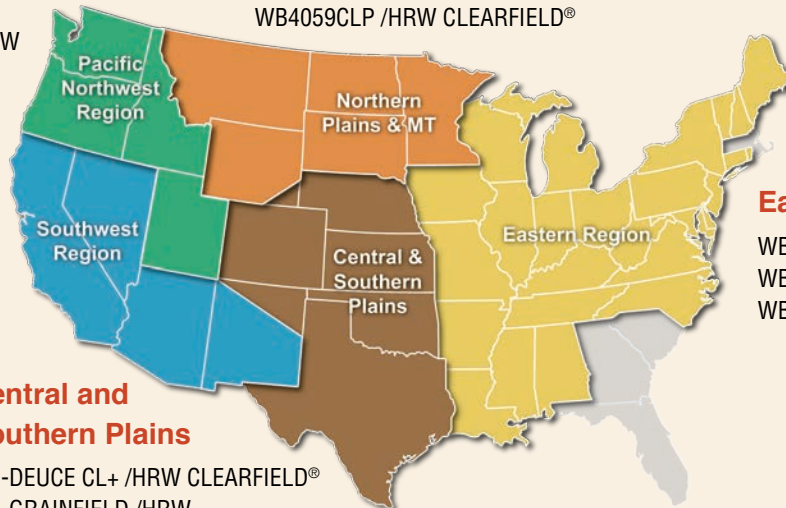
WB- 1081CL+ /SWW CLEARFIELD®  
KELDIN /HRW  
WB-ARROWHEAD /HRW

### Northern Plains & MT

WB7543 /HWS  
WB9879CLP /HRS CLEARFIELD®  
WB4059CLP /HRW CLEARFIELD®

### Southwest Region

WB9229 /HRS  
WB-JOQUIN ORO /HRS  
WB-PATRON /HRS FORAGE  
WB-PERLA /HWS



### Central and Southern Plains

WB-DEUCE CL+ /HRW CLEARFIELD®  
WB-GRAINFIELD /HRW  
WB-REDHAWK /HRW  
WB-CEDAR /HRW  
WB4458 /HRW

### Eastern Region

WB-700 /SRW  
WB1997 /SWW  
WB2334 /SRW

Visit [www.westbred.com](http://www.westbred.com) for Product Profiles on these and other WestBred varieties.







800 Lindbergh Blvd.  
St. Louis, Missouri 63167



*"We believe and we see that the WestBred varieties are stand-alone varieties in the fact that they bring, through top-performing genetics, an increased yield level than what we have seen in the past. They are able to bring to us great all-around products that allow our farmers to be more successful with what they are trying to do through their extensive testing program. They test each seed brand and they test it right here."*

Shane Ohlde  
Ohlde Seed Farms, LLC  
Palmer, KS



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# FOCUS

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