



# Field

Serving the Northern



# Crops

Sacramento Valley

University of California • Cooperative Extension • Butte, Glenn & Tehama Counties

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## **Wheat & Barley Varieties for the 2013 Crop**

In 2009 there were only a few isolated fields with stripe rust in the Sacramento Valley, which was the best wheat stripe rust news since the current stripe rust problems began in 2003. Unfortunately, 2010 through 2012 had more stripe rust problems. In 2010 the widely planted variety PR 1404 showed some susceptibility to strip rust and in 2011 the variety Joaquin became susceptible to this serious disease of wheat.

All of the University of California Cooperative Extension wheat and barley variety testing results are available online at: <http://smallgrains.ucdavis.edu/>. These results include grain yields, disease ratings, and quality evaluations for all locations statewide. For the Sacramento Valley there are results for three wheat trials and one barley trial.

Updated wheat variety characteristics, including the very important wheat stripe rust resistance, are available at the California Wheat Commission website: <http://www.californiawheat.org/uploads/resources/503/2012.13-wheat-certified-seed-buying-guide-online.pdf>. There are several good varieties to choose from with good stripe rust resistance.

There are also some excellent small grains variety trial results available for Yolo, Sacramento, and Solano Counties at: [http://ceyolo.ucanr.edu/Custom\\_Program724/Small\\_Grains\\_Studies/](http://ceyolo.ucanr.edu/Custom_Program724/Small_Grains_Studies/). These are larger plot trials done by Yolo County Farm Advisor, Kent Brittan. The results are available for four trials in 2012 and many other trials in earlier years.

With wheat there is always a tradeoff between yield and quality. The variety situation has changed a little since 2009. Blanca Fuerte, a white bread wheat, still clearly has the highest yield with moderate stripe rust resistance, but has lower quality (protein) and is thus very difficult to market. Rockland is a newer variety with about the same yield as Espresso, but with a one percent higher protein level. The variety Cal Rojo is intermediate in yield and quality. A newer UC variety, Patwin, has about the same yield as Cal Rojo, but higher protein.

The barley variety UC 933 has consistently been a high yielding variety with good quality. Ishi is a similar newer variety which is also available. All of the statewide testing results for barley varieties are also available at the above UC Davis small grains website.

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of California and County of Glenn Cooperating

## **2012 California Alfalfa & Grains Symposium**

December 10-12, 2012

Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento, CA

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/Alfalfa/>

- Listen to over 30 expert speakers.
- Visit with your colleagues from all over the state at the evening receptions.
- Stop by the exhibit area to see the latest on alfalfa and grain products and services.
- Join us for the Monday Delta Agricultural Tour

There are over 2.7 million acres of hay and grain crops in California, the primary of which are alfalfa and wheat. This comprehensive conference will focus on the many issues related to forage and grain crops, particularly global issues, economics and crop production techniques. Discussion topics will include water management, fertilizers and nutrients, crop quality and pest management for both alfalfa and wheat.

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