2020-2021 Variety Development Work on Soft Red and White Wheat

By Dr. Eric Olson

Since 2013, Dr. Eric Olson has been the MSU wheat breeder in a position that is mutually funded by the University and the Michigan Wheat Program. He has looked at and/or developed thousands of soft winter wheat crosses seeking improved yield, quality and disease resistance for Michigan wheat growers; as well as qualities better suited to the Michigan flour milling industry.

This report covers Olson’s results from 2020-2021 trials of nine soft white winter and five soft red wheat lines from a commercial trial. These were the most promising of 115 varieties included in that year’s MSU Wheat Variety Trials.

Olson also conducted advanced yield trials (also called high-management trials) with soft red and soft white winter wheat. With specific additional fungicide and nitrogen applications, these trials provide a more accurate assessment of yield potential. In 2020 107 experimental soft red varieties were tested against controls, and 54 soft white varieties were evaluated against controls.

Click below to review Olson’s 2020-2021 final report.

- 2020-2021 Variety Development Work final report