

● **Redcoat**

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Pennoll is still planted on more acres than any other variety, but mostly because seed stock of Redcoat was not available in large enough quantities, Pfeifer believes.

He said while dry weather will cut yields of all wheats this year Redcoat will show up well in comparison to other varieties because it is extremely winter hardy and resistant to disease.

While Redcoat has some resistance to smut, it is in areas of bad rust and mildew infestations that it really proves its worth.

In some plantings this year stands of Seneca and Thorne lost 100 per cent of their leaves to disease while Redcoat had zero leaf loss in adjoining plots.

This characteristic is one of the factors in the high yields produced by the variety in experimental plots and field acreages last year. Pfeifer now has 79 crosses with Redcoat under test at the University in an attempt to improve the variety further.

**New Spring Oat**

Pfeifer hinted that two new small grains may be available for planting during the 1963 seeding season. One is a beardless strain of Hudson barley and the other an experimental spring oat which has not yet been given a name.

In five yield check plots across the state the new strain of oats produced an average of 64.2 bushels of grain and 3.9 tons of straw with no lodging in any of the five plots.

In check plots at the five locations Gary made 55.5 bushels of grain and 3.2 tons of straw. Clinton 59 had 48.1 bushels and 2.8 tons of straw.

The experimental variety had an average height of 41 inches. Gary stood 43 inches tall and had 13 per cent lodging. Clinton 59 stood 41 inches high and 26 per cent of the stalks lodged.

Pfeifer said Russell, a Canadian variety distributed by some seedsmen in the state had yields of 58.4 bushels of grain and 3.4 tons of straw per acre. It stood 42 inches tall and had 26 per cent lodging.

While Russell had been very popular, Pfeifer said Penn State could not recommend it because it has been on test only one year. Three years of testing have gone into the new experimental variety.

**4-H Dairy Club Demonstration Is Featured**

A donation of \$100 was voted to be used toward the education of a boy or girl in Ecuador at the Monday night meeting of the County 4-H Ayshire - Jersey - Brown Swiss Club.

The group voted the donation from the treasury in an effort to help spread good will among the youth around the world. One of the club leaders, Milton Brubaker, of Lutz, R1, has a relative in missionary work in Ecuador. Club members hearing of the need for education among the youth of the country plan to set up the fund.

Charlotte Weidler, daughter of Mrs. A. Clyde Kreider of Quarryville, R1, was elected the club's representative in the county Posture Queen contest next month. Miss Weidler is club reporter.

**Beardless Barley**

Pfeifer called Hudson "the best agronomic barley with a name" and said the beardless Hudson is similar in all respects except for the awns.

Awnless Hudson, similar in appearance to Wong, was produced by radiation of normal Hudson seed. The radiation killed one of the genes carrying the beard characteristic without having any effect on any other traits.

While the beardless barley (actually it has "awnlets" as does Wong) has not been released by the University, Pfeifer indicated his department would probably ask for its release this winter if tests now in progress confirm their expectations.

Over 100 farmers and seedsmen inspected winter oats, winter wheat and barley and spring oats plots on the research farm during the afternoon. On the field day program in addition to Pfeifer were Bedford F. Coon, research entomologist, and Harold G. Marshall, plan breeder in charge of the winter oats program.



A NEW SPRING OAT at the Southeastern Pennsylvania Field Research laboratory near Landisville, is being examined by plant breeder Robert P. Pfeifer, left, and Elmer Pifer, extension agronomist, both from the Pennsylvania State University. The new oat, not yet named, looks better than anything else in the test plots at five locations in the state, Pfeifer told Lancaster County farmers and seedsmen at small grains field day at the farm on Tuesday. L. F. Photo

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