

New high-yield wheat variety ready for release

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — After a six-year statewide test period, the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station is ready to release a new high-yield wheat variety that promises early maturity, excellent baking quality and good disease resistance.

The new soft red winter wheat variety is called "Severn," and research scientists with the Experiment Station at the University of Maryland say it has proven to be an ideal partner for double cropping with soybeans.

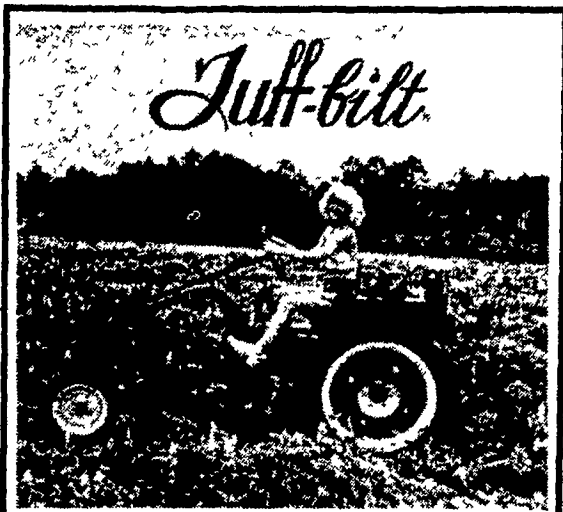
Official release of the new wheat variety is scheduled to coincide with the "Crops and Soils Research Field Day" August 18 at the Wye Research Farm near Queenstown.

"Severn's" yield says James R.

Miller, chairman of the University's Department of Agronomy, averages seven bushels per acre more than "Arthur," a widely-planted wheat variety in Maryland. Its maturity date is similar to "Arthur," adding to its potential popularity for wheat-soybean double cropping by Maryland farmers.

Foundation seed of "Severn" was produced in Maryland during 1980-81 and will be distributed through foundation seed organizations this fall.

Small amounts of seed should be available for farmer's use by fall 1982 and seed should be generally available in 1983, said Miller. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station.



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