

Personal Column

Week of June 16-20, 2025

By Sandra L. Wick

K-State Research and Extension-Post Rock Extension District
Crop Production Agent

Post Rock Extension District “Recorded” Wheat Plot Tour

Well, it won't be long, and the combines and farm trucks will be rolling in the wheat fields around north central KS. The 2025 wheat crop has certainly been through a variety of conditions during the growing season with some looking pretty good while others not so good. Stay tuned and I will provide an update on our Post Rock Extension District Wheat Demonstration Plot Tours that were held the end of May.

Annually, the Post Rock Extension District conducts face-to-face tours of our wheat demonstration plots around the district, and this was held on Thursday, May 22 at our three locations. The variety signs will continue to be up on each of the wheat plots in Jewell, Mitchell, and Smith counties and the field locations are posted on our website at www.postrock.ksu.edu under the “Crops” tab and then go to “Test Plots”. So, we encourage you to go by and take a look at the varieties in any of the wheat plots closest to you.

We recorded the Smith County wheat demonstration plot tour, and it is posted on our “Crops” page, under “Test Plots.” K-State Research and Extension agronomists along with myself provided information on each of the varieties along with conditions throughout the growing season including diseases.

“The wheat variety plots provide a visual demonstration of how crop varieties perform in a particular area of the state along with yield potential of that variety,” Sandra Wick, K-State Research and Extension, Post Rock District, Crop Production Agent explains. “This is known as “seeing is believing!” “Producers who observe the demonstrations and the latest methods or practices, then may apply them to their own situations,” added Wick. Producers can then compare the yield data from the many K-State Research and Extension experiment fields across the state of Kansas, to this local yield data, in selecting the most adaptive and productive wheat varieties.

Our Demonstration Wheat Plot cooperators take a lot of time out of their busy schedule to provide local yield data to producers of north central Kansas. A BIG thank you to Justin Angleton and Jason Ryan, Jewell Co.; Marty Fletchall, Mitchell Co.; and Mark Kuhlmann, Smith Co. If you would like to volunteer as a Wheat Demonstration plot cooperator, contact Sandra at any of our Post Rock Extension District Offices in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne or Smith Center.

We especially would like to thank all of our sponsors for our Post Rock Extension District Wheat Test Plot Program including Ag Mark, LLC; CPI; Central Valley Ag; Kansas Wheat Alliance; Lang Diesel, Inc.; Midway Coop, Inc., Phillips Seed Farms; Randall Farmers Coop Union; Sims Fertilizer & Chemical; Star Seed

Inc.; and Trinity Ag Cooperative, Inc. We encourage all producers and agriculture businesses to take advantage of these educational opportunities from the Post Rock Extension District and K-State Research and Extension.

For more information on our **Wheat Demonstration plot program**, contact me at any of our Post Rock Extension District Offices in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne or Smith Center.

Post Rock Extension District of K-State Research and Extension serves Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, and Smith counties. Sandra may be contacted at swick@ksu.edu or by calling Smith Center, 282-6823, Beloit 738-3597, Lincoln 524-4432, Mankato 378-3174, or Osborne 346-2521. Join us for our weekly “The Ag News Roundup Newsletter” by simply emailing me and getting on our weekly ag listserv. Also remember our website is www.postrock.ksu.edu and my twitter account is @PRDcrops.