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Tecumseh Wheat

(Bulletin numbers were inverted in the next edition to 858, from 585)

Michigan State University

Cooperative Extension Service

July 1975

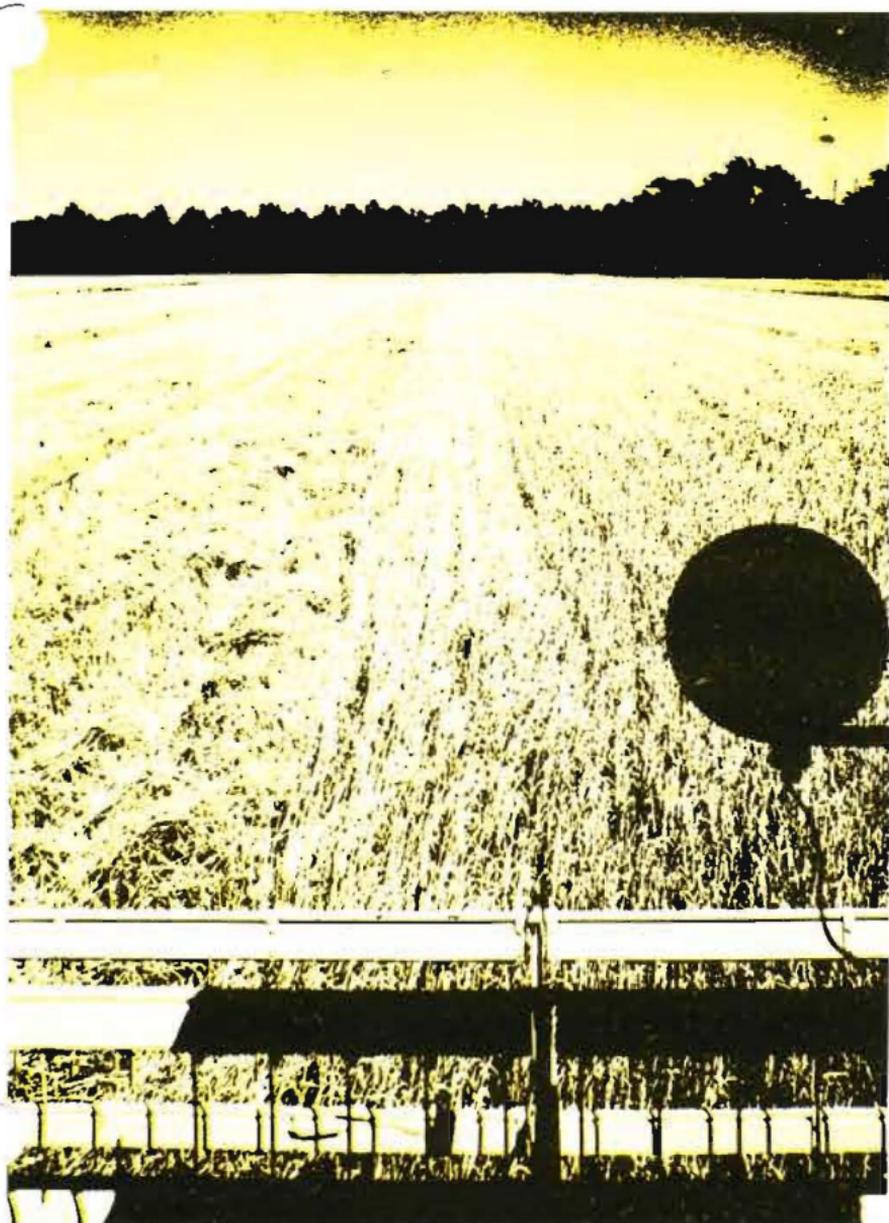
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Extension Bulletin E-585
Farm Science Series - July 1975

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TECUMSEH WHEAT

A new soft, white
wheat for Michigan
—short straw
and winter hardy

Michigan State University
Cooperative Extension Service

MICHIGAN WHEAT GROWERS can expect top yields from Tecumseh, the newest soft, white wheat variety developed by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station. It is the first high-yielding soft white, winter wheat variety adapted to Michigan, which associates short plant height, lodging resistance and high test weight.

It combines the following characteristics into a single variety:

- high yields
- improved winter hardiness
- rust resistance
- mildew resistance
- Hessian fly resistance
- high milling quality

Tecumseh was named for Tecumseh, Michigan, the site of one of the first frontier grist mills (1835) in the Michigan Territory.

High Yield and Winterhardy

In 30 test nurseries from 1969-74, Tecumseh outyielded Genesee by 10% and in 17 nurseries from 1971-73, it outyielded Genesee by 15%. In 1972, when severe winter damage occurred in Michigan, it survived much better than other varieties and outyielded Genesee and Yorkstar by 40 and 49% respectively.

Disease and Insect Resistance

Tecumseh has excellent field resistance to most of the races of leaf rust and powdery mildew currently prevalent in Michigan. It has superior resistance to the soil-borne wheat spindle streak mosaic virus very prevalent in Michigan and neighboring states. It is also resistant to Races A and C of Hessian fly, the most prevalent in Michigan. Tecumseh has Arthur parentage in its pedigree; like Arthur, it has some natural resistance to loose smut.

Quality

Tecumseh is approximately 1% higher in protein than Ionia and Genesee, but has dough viscosity levels between those of the other soft, white wheat varieties and the soft, red varieties. Flour from Tecumseh has high pastry quality and makes excellent cookies.

Agronomic Description

Unlike other soft, white varieties grown in Michigan, Tecumseh is a white-chaffed wheat. It has moderately stiff, short straw which provides good lodging resistance. It is about 4 to 5 inches shorter than Yorkstar and 9 to 10 inches shorter than Genesee and Ionia. It is a high-tillering variety with shorter heads than Yorkstar but considerably higher kernel and test weight.

Comparison of Tecumseh with other Soft, White Winter Wheats.

Variety	Race "A" Hessian Fly resistance	Test* Weight	Height (Inches)	Yield* (Bu/A)	Yield in* % of Genesee
Tecumseh	Resistant**	61.0	36	55.4	110
Genesee	Susceptible	58.7	43	50.3	100
Ionia	Resistant	58.7	43	51.9	103
Arthur	Resistant	60.7	35	54.2	108
Yorkstar	Susceptible	56.7	38	55.2	110

*Mean of 30 nurseries in 5 years.

**Also resistant to Race C, Hessian fly.

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WEEDS	0.00%	TESTED 98%
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CROP	0.00%	NATION

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For Further Information Contact

**Michigan Crop Improvement Association
P. O. Box 1008
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or Your County Extension Office**

Acknowledgements

Tecumseh was released jointly by the MSU Departments of Crop and Soil Sciences, Entomology, Botany and Plant Pathology; the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Michigan State Miller's Association and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperated in rating the milling and baking quality of Tecumseh. Research to develop Tecumseh was supported by funds from the State of Michigan, millers, processors and shippers of Michigan soft wheat and the Michigan Foundation Seed Association.

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