

2026 National Wheat Yield Contest Rules

(Digital Yield Pilot Category)



Thank you for your interest in the National Wheat Yield Contest. Please read the entire rules. You must register for an account on the contest website before putting in your entries. www.wheatcontest.org. Good Luck!

****NEW PILOT CATEGORY: (Winter Wheat dryland only available in the states of CO, KS, MT, NE, OK, SD, TX, WY) (Spring Wheat dryland only available in the states of MN, MT, ND, SD)***

CONTEST DEADLINES

Entries must be submitted by May 15, 2026 (Winter categories) and July 31, 2026 (Spring categories). Harvest Data is due October 1, 2026. No late entries or harvest data will be accepted. Entries must be completed online at www.wheatcontest.org

CONTEST ENTRY FEES

Each entry costs \$100. There are many entry fee vouchers available from our partners. On your entry form, please indicate whether you will be paying with a credit card or voucher. If you use a voucher, please identify which voucher.

You may enter up to 3 fields in this digital yield pilot category.

Field boundaries must be submitted at entry. A field map will be attached to the entry, in addition to the GPS coordinates.

Supervisors will not be used in this category. The digital field maps and weights from calibrated equipment will be verification of the yield. Contestants must attest that their submissions are accurate.

Contestants may enter more than one category but can only win a national award in one category including the traditional 5-acre contest categories.

Any contestant committing fraud will be barred from the contest for three years.

CONTEST QUALIFICATIONS

MEMBERSHIP Entrants must be a member of their state wheat grower association or NAWG (if no state association affiliated with NAWG) **at the time of entry**. Also, entrants must enter as an individual and must be at least 14 years of age at time of entry.

Partnerships can enter under the partnership name if the partnership holds a membership. Entrants must be a certified FSA owner/operator (or child) showing a minimum of 50 acres wheat in an operation. Only one winner per FSA tract number is eligible to be a state and national winner.

CONTEST CATEGORIES

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1. Winter and Spring Wheat Dryland- One High Yield Winner will be recognized in each category.
2. Winter and Spring Wheat Dryland-One-% increase over county average winner will be recognized in each category.
State winners (1st-3rd place) will be recognized in Digital Yield (high yield) Categories. Publicity will include a press release, listing on the Foundation and Yield Contest website and other media.

FIELD QUALIFICATIONS

Field must be at least 40 contiguous acres, planted with professionally produced, certified, branded, newly purchased wheat seed. Qualified seed will be verified upon entry with an attachment of proof of purchase. Field will be verified by a field map generated electronically and signed by the contestant. Entry field and harvest field must be the same and submitted electronically upon entry and harvest.

WHEAT QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to win a National Award, wheat must meet quality standards:

- Test weight for hard red spring or white club must be 57+ lbs.
- Test weight for all other classes must be 58+ lbs.

Test weight must be documented on the weigh tickets, along with moisture on the day of harvest. If test weight is below the standards, you may dry the wheat and test it again later.

QUALITY RECOGNITION

All contestants must save a 10-pound wheat sample at harvest. Wheat samples of only the National Winning entries will be sent in to specified laboratories and evaluated for grain, milling, and baking quality. A panel of experts will rank the wheat quality by class and top industry-desired quality will be recognized with a cash award. Please save your 10-pound sample in a safe place until the contest notifies you in late fall.

APPROVED PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Partners may pay the entrant's membership dues or entry fees into the contest. Partners may provide company products or samples to cover the contest plot area or field up to 40 acres. They may also provide additional prizes to the winners for Commodity Classic travel to family members or farm employees.

JUDGING

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Decisions of the National Wheat Foundation in all matters pertaining to the contest are final. The NWF reserves the right to disqualify any entry without a refund for violation of

these stated rules. Any contestant committing fraud will be barred from the contest for three years.

HARVESTING RULES

Detailed rules documentation that is due at harvest can be found online in the harvest section of the contest entry. Do not use end/ turning rows and the outermost rows of the field as part of the contest acres. The field must be at least 40 contiguous acres, and entrant will digitally select a contiguous block (rectangle shape) of 20 acres to submit their yield for the contest. No rechecks are required. Please contact the contest if your yield is over 250 bpa.

HARVEST ENTRY

Your yield submission will consist of your data from your calibrated equipment.

1. Proof of Calibration of equipment (photos of screens on equipment)
2. 2-3 photos of your Yield Monitor yield taken in the field during harvest and dated with date of harvest
3. Digital weights for the entire field (indicate wet and dry weights) (or elevator scale tickets for entire field)
4. Grain Moisture on the day of harvest.
5. Summary report showing the full field yield and selected 20-acre yield (from John Deere Operations Center, Climate FieldView, Bushel, etc.)
6. Full field file (same field as in entry)
7. Proof of test weight
8. Bushel per Acre corrected to 13.5% moisture on the selected 20 acres

The Contest reserves the right to ask for clarification on any of these items as needed to prove the yield submission is accurate.

MOISTURE TESTING

Experienced person must make moisture determination of a representative sample of the wheat. If sampling and scaling are performed by the grower, it is best to have the same sample run through the meter 3 times and take the average of the 3. The moisture % must be listed on the weigh ticket or attached on a separate moisture ticket.

PRIZES

National award winners will receive travel, lodging and registration to the Commodity Classic. Top Quality will be recognized with a cash award in addition to Commodity Classic trip.

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State Winners (top 3 in yield categories) will be recognized with certificates and publicity on the website and press releases.

NOTE: National Winners who do not travel to the Commodity Classic will not receive the cash value of their trip. Quality winners who do not travel to the Commodity Classic will receive the cash award in the mail after the Commodity Classic.

REPORTING

Yield data must be submitted by October 1, 2026. 11:59 pm eastern time. If you have trouble submitting, you must notify contest director before the October 1 deadline.

The Online harvest submission form will be closed after Oct. 1 11:59 pm eastern time and harvest data will NOT be accepted after October 1. Keep a copy of your harvest submission.

DETERMINING NATIONAL WINNERS

A grower can only win one National Award. That includes both this pilot category and the "traditional" 5 Acre categories. High Yield. The Contest will select the highest yielding entry from each category.

% increase over county- dryland categories only. After determining the high yield National winners, the remaining dryland entries will be judged based on their % increase over the county average. USDA Olympic County average will be used to determine the % increase. Increases below 0 will not be eligible.

In the event of a percentage tie, the contestant harvesting and reporting the largest actual bushel yield will be declared the winner. If a second tiebreaker is needed the contestant with the longest time between entry date and harvest date will be named the winner.

QUESTIONS

For questions or issues with your entries, please contact Anne Osborne before the deadlines at 701-368-9815

(aosborne@wheatworld.org)



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Please go to the website for **ENTRY FORM, MORE DETAILS & CONTEST PARTNERS**

www.wheatcontest.org



PILOT