**Niger Time of Swathing Evaluation**

**Purpose of Study**
To evaluate the yield of EarlyBird niger to 4 swathing dates, starting one week before average first frost date (September 20th) compared to straight combining after a killing frost.

**Cooperator:** Mark and Michelle Naplin (SH) Greg and Deb Whalen (O)

**Nearest Town:** St. Hilaire (SH) and Oklee (O)

**Soil Type:** Sandy loam

**Tillage:** Fall chiseled, spring cultivated

**Previous Crop:** Wheat

**Variety:** EarlyBird

**Planting Date:** May 17, 2002 (SH)

May 14, 2002 (O)

**Row Width:** 6"

**Fertilizer:** 35-40-20-10S, 4 Zn, 3 Cu (SH)

40-60-50-10S, 4 Zn, 3 Cu (O)

**Herbicide:** 1.5 pts/a Treflan

**Harvest Date:** October 14, 2002 (SH)

October 15, 2002 (O)

**Frost Date:** October 2, 2002 (SH)

October 6, 2002 (O)

**Experimental Design:** Randomized complete block with 4 replications

**Results**
This niger variety blooms over an extended period until frost. Swathing on the earliest date reduced yields at both locations. Visual observations suggested more shatter loss with straight combining.

**Source:** 2002 On-Farm Cropping Trials Northwest and West Central Minnesota U of MN Extension Service, published January 2003

**Polk County**

**Purpose of Study**
To evaluate different spring wheat varieties grown under a certified organic production system. Entries came from either an organic or a conventional seed source.

**Cooperator:** Jim and Pat Todahl

**Nearest Town:** Pelican Rapids

**Soil Type:** Flaming sandy loam

**Tillage:** Fall chiseled, spring cultivated

**Previous Crop:** Soybeans

**Variety:** See table

**Planting Date:** May 27, 2002

**Row Width:** 8’

**Fertilizer:** 3 ton/acre manure, fall 2001

**Herbicide:** None, field is certified organic

**Harvest Date:** August 23, 2002

**Experimental Design:** Randomized complete block with 4 replications

**Results**
Walworth significantly out-yielded many of the tested varieties, but did not differ significantly in yield from Parshall. In organic production protein premiums can be a major part of the income. Glupro provided the highest protein percent. End of the season weed pressure among the varieties differed significantly.

**Source:** 2002 On-Farm Cropping Trials Northwest and West Central Minnesota U of MN Extension Service, published January 2003
Purpose of Study
To evaluate different spring wheat varieties grown under a certified organic production system. Entries came from either an organic or a conventional seed source.

For additional information:
Source: 2002 On-Farm Cropping Trials Northwest and West Central Minnesota

Purpose of Study
To evaluate the response of EarlyBird niger to four nitrogen fertility levels and three seeding rates.

Organic Wheat Variety Evaluation
Clay County

Cooperator: Lynn Brakke
Nearest Town: Comstock
Soil Type: Borup loam
Tillage: Fall chiseled, spring cultivated
Previous Crop: Soybeans
Planting Date: May 17, 2002
Row Width: 9'
Fertilizer: 900 lbs/a of "Cluck" 4-4-2 was applied fall 2001
Weed Control: Harrowing 2.5 mph on May 22, 31, June 7, 21, 2002 and handweeding after heading
Harvest Date: August 19, 2002

Experimental Design: Randomized complete block with 4 replications

Results
Parshall (organic seed source) significantly out-yielded many of the tested varieties, but did not significantly differ in yield from Ingot and Walworth. In this trial no differences in protein levels were observed. Chris and Glupro had the highest scab ratings. Vista and Red Fife were the most susceptible to the prevailing rust races in Comstock. Stoî had the most pigweeds per ft².

Purpose of Study
To evaluate the response of EarlyBird niger to four nitrogen fertility levels and three seeding rates.

Red Lake & Pennington Counties
Niger Seeding Rate and Nitrogen Evaluation

Cooperator: Mark and Michelle Naplin (SH)
Greg and Deb Whalen (O)
Nearest Town: St. Hilaire (SH) and Oklee (O)
Soil Type: Sandy loam
Tillage: Fall chiseled, spring cultivated
Previous Crop: Wheat
Variety: EarlyBird
Planting Date: May 17, 2002 (SH)
May 14, 2002 (O)
Row Width: 6'
Fertilizer: 0, 20, 40, 60 lb N/a
Seed Rate: 3, 6, and 9 lb/a
Weed Control: 1.5 pts/a Treflan
Swathing: September 27, 2002 (SH)
October 15, 2002 (O)
Harvest Date: October 14, 2002 (SH)
October 14, 2002 (O)

Experimental Design: Randomized complete block with 4 replications

Results
At Oklee no significant yield differences were observed due to N rate or seeding rate. Increased N levels tended to increase the crop height at both locations. There was no significant N fertilizer by seeding rate interaction at either location. At St. Hilaire seeding rates of 6 or 9 lb yielded significantly greater than 0 lb N.

Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
McIntosh, MN 56556
Courthouse, PO Box 279
Municipal Bldg.; PO Box 69

1 Corrected to 13.5% moisture
2 Scab score: 0=no scab, 3=severe scab
3 O = Organic seed source
4 Variety response may be related to seed lot (variety response may be related to seed lot)