

Many of the 2009 winter wheat variety test results are now available online and the rest will soon follow, said a University of Nebraska–Lincoln specialist. Each year, UNL tests winter wheat varieties in several locations throughout the state, said Bob Klein, Western Nebraska Crops Specialist. Plots near Arapahoe, McCook, Imperial, Brule and North Platte provide producers with data on yield, moisture, weight, height, lodging and protein content. An additional test of irrigated wheat near O'Neill and several plots in the Panhandle and eastern Nebraska complete the performance trials.

Klein advised producers to select varieties that have done well in their local area for three or more years, but to also look at new varieties showing up for the first or second year.

“Although you might not plant large acreages of them, you might want to try out one or two or three of those varieties and see how they perform on your farm,” he said. “Then you can decide whether to increase the acreage of them in the future.”

To access the test results, type cropwatch.unl.edu into the address window and click on “Variety Tests” in the left navigation bar. From there, select the crop from the top navigation bar and follow the selections in the gray bar that appears below.

If you don't have access to the Web, go to your local county extension office for help in getting the information from the Internet.