

Varieties with good agronomics, good genetics, combined with good yield potential for grain

Screen genotypes at several locations

Objective 1: Wheat Residue Characteristics and Forage Quality

- Stem wall thickness
- Amount of biomass
- Lignin/quality parameters
- Forage quality
- Classify varieties by metrics for residue characteristics

Objective 2: Wheat Stem Sawfly Survival and Impact on Wheat Yield

- Create standardized methods for screening in breeding program
- ID peak flights and timings
- Relationship of stem characteristics and sawfly survival
- Impact on yield comparing infested and non-infested areas

Objective 3: Residue Degradation, Soil Water, and Soil Health

- Differences in residue persistence
- Effects on OM, long-term nutrient management
- Soil water content and impact on subsequent crop yield

Objective 4: Soil Water Content

- Extension guide for producers outlining benefits of variety selection for wheat residue characteristics
- On-site field tours
- Coordination with breeders and seedsmen to promote findings