Growing Together: Learnings from Manitoba Spring Wheat YEN Pilot

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Advances in wheat genetics and improved management practices have increased yields over the past 50 years. However, recent research shows a persistent gap between actual and potential yields on the Canadian Prairies. To address this, the Manitoba Spring Wheat Yield Enhancement Network (YEN) pilot program was launched in 2025, aiming to identify the agronomic and environmental factors that influence yield capture. Modeled after the original YEN program developed by ADAS in the UK, this collaborative initiative uses on-farm trials and a mathematical model to estimate yield potential, enabling comparison with actual yield captured. Data, including field practices, soil properties, fertilizer inputs, plant nutrient status, yield components, and grain quality, are collected throughout the season to benchmark fields. This data, in tandem with yield capture information, will be used to identify practices that lead to higher yield capture.

In its inaugural year, six farmers from across Agro-Manitoba participated in the pilot program. This poster presents preliminary findings from the 2025 Manitoba Spring Wheat YEN and gives an overview of how the program works.