

**2009 Annual Report for the Nebraska Wheat Board**  
**from**  
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**To Fallow or Not To Fallow**

In 2008-2009, all crops were following the appropriate crops in the rotation for the first time during the study. We are now in the data collection phase of the study, which will last through the fall of 2010. This study is being conducted at two locations, Sidney, NE and Akron, CO. Unfortunately, at Sidney the 2009 crop season through June has seen several minor hail events that may cause some problems with data interpretation at Sidney. through June, Akron has been spared hail damage. June was also a record breaking month for rainfall at Sidney and Akron. Nearly 10 inches of precipitation was received at Sidney during the month. We will have to wait and see how this affects our results.

We will analyze this year's data as soon as we complete corn harvest in the fall. We will be seeding the 2010 winter wheat crop into summer fallow and triticale stubble this fall.

I received funding to support a graduate student for this project through the UNL Foundation's Anna Elliott Fund. I will be looking to recruit a graduate student for the upcoming Spring semester. The student will work in the field during the summer of 2010 and then the student will spend their time running crop simulations to compare fixed and flexible cropping systems using historical climate data. The financial support of the Nebraska Wheat Board will be used to help cover the operating and travel expenses associated with the graduate student's work on this study.

Once again, I was able to limit the expenses I have billed to this project in the past fiscal year to one-half of that budgeted. There is no guarantee that I can do that again in the next fiscal year, especially with the increased expenses associated with a graduate student, but I will continue to use these funds as prudently as possible.