

Japan defers wheat buys until new test in place

By MATTHEW WEAVER
Capital Press

Japan has deferred new purchases of Western white wheat until a validated test is in place for the genetically engineered wheat under investigation in Washington state, a U.S. Wheat Associates spokesman says.

The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is investigating 22 genetically engineered wheat plants found in a fallow field in Washington state.

The wheat was developed by the Monsanto Co. and called MON 71700. It was evaluated in a limited number of field trials in the Pacific Northwest from 1998 to 2001 but never commercialized, according to Monsanto.

MON 71700 contains the same inserted DNA as MON 71800, which was found in an Eastern Oregon field in the spring of 2013. An APHIS investigation was unable to pinpoint the source of that wheat. The DNA is in a different genomic position, according to Monsanto.

No genetically engineered wheat is commercially available. There is no evidence of the GE wheat in commerce, according to APHIS. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration says it is unlikely the wheat presents any safety concerns if present in the food supply.

Produced in the Pacific Northwest, Western white wheat is a blend of soft white wheat and club wheat, a

subclass of soft white, and sold to customers in Japan and Taiwan.

Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries will resume purchases once a test designed by Monsanto and validated by USDA is ready, said Steve Mercer, vice president of communications for U.S. Wheat. Japan has been testing its wheat for MON 71800.

The new test will be capable of detecting both MON 71800 and MON 71700, Mercer said.

Western white wheat already purchased but not yet delivered will not be halted, Mercer said. Japanese tenders this month are for delivery in October. Japan typically keeps 1.8 months of inventory on hand.

"The test materials and instructions are in Japan, but we think MAFF and other agencies will validate the test before putting it to use," Mercer said.

U.S. Wheat doesn't expect changes in importation, such as vessel loading, discharging or the execution of existing sales contracts.

There may also be a temporary hold on the distribution of supplies of Western white wheat that are already stored in Japan for mills, pending the set-up of the new test kits, Mercer said.

There hasn't been any official word from South Korea, which also temporarily halted purchases of wheat after the 2013 discovery, Mercer said.

Industry members hope open communication with overseas customers will keep the event from damaging the market.

Blake Rowe, Oregon Wheat CEO, said APHIS' approach is more proactive compared to the 2013 incident.

"I think there was earlier conversation with our trading partners and their governments," he said. "They were aware, they knew what kind of work was going on. I think that was maybe something we learned from 2013, early communication and keeping them in the loop as to what progress is being made, so when the information (was announced), they weren't surprised. They had some time to get comfortable."

"I know there are procedures in place, APHIS was called in right away and the buyers were notified right

away," said Ron Jirava, a Ritzville, Wash., wheat farmer. "I think it's a wait-and-see again what their final determinations are."

"I hope it doesn't amount to much — it shouldn't amount to much," said Ben Barstow, a farmer in Palouse, Wash.

The GE wheat event comes during a season that has also seen concerns about protein levels, falling number tests, stripe rust and lower prices.

"It's just one more thing," Barstow said.

Like other farmers, Barstow is curious about how the GE wheat turned up in the field.

"The protocols that were in place to keep this stuff contained were as good as we could think of at the time — I'm sure they're better now than they were 10 or 15 years ago, but still, it's a mystery as

how that stuff is showing up there," he said.

Barstow is concerned about incorrect news stories he sees coming out of South Korea implying commercial production of GMO wheat in the United States.

"Nothing could be further from the truth," he said. "I'm always concerned about how these things will be handled by the press. It's really easy to frighten people about these things, and there's no need for it, at all."

Jirava expects similar situations will occur.

"As long there's geese, deer and mice, stuff's going to move around that we don't know about until it shows up," he said. "Nobody, I don't think, is trying to deliberately do something underhanded. I think this is just something the wildlife have gotten into and we see it move around a little bit."

Jirava suggests farmers use an alternative to Roundup. Other herbicides are known to kill Roundup-resistant wheat, he said.

"We're not surprised by this at all," said Amy van Saun, an attorney for the Center for Food Safety in Portland. The center is a nonprofit public interest and environmental advocacy organization. "Contamination by GE crops and GE organisms generally is inevitable. It keeps happening over and over again."

This is the third discovery of genetically engineered wheat in the U.S. Besides the 2013 discovery in Eastern Oregon, in September of 2014 a different variety of glyphosate-resistant wheat was found on a Huntley, Mont., research plot, where genetically engineered wheat had been legally tested 11 years before.

Tuesday Morning

STATION	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
FOX	11 KFFX	11 AgDay	Friends	Zoo Clues	Paid	Hot/ Cleve.	Paid	Mother	Paid	Steve Harvey	Crime Watch Daily	
FOX	KPTV	3 Good Day Oregon at 6	Good Day Oregon	Good Day Oregon				Good Day		The 700 Club	Paid	Paid
CBS	19 KEPR	2 News	News	CBS This Morning (N)				Meredith Vieira		The Price Is Right	Young & Restless	
CBS	KOIN	19 KOIN 6 News at 6 a.m.	CBS This Morning (N)					Let's Make a Deal		The Price Is Right	Young & Restless	
NBC	25 KNDU	6 Wake Up Northwest	Today Tyler Henry, James Andrew Miller (N)					Today Show II (N)		Today Show III (N)	Wendy Williams	
NBC	KGW	8 KGW News at Sunrise	Today Tyler Henry, James Andrew Miller (N)					Today Show II (N)		Today Show III (N)	The Dr. Oz Show	
ABC	42 KVEW	4 Northwest	Northwest	Good Morning America (N)				Live! With Kelly (N)		The View	Paid	Middle
ABC	KATU	5 KATU News Morning	Good Morning America (N)					AM Northwest		The View	Live! With Kelly (N)	
PBS	31 KTNW	Stretch	W.L. Yoga	Wild Kratts	Jet Go!	Nature Cat	C. George	D. Tiger	D. Tiger	Sesame St.	Peg + Cat	DinoTrain
PBS	59 OPB	13 Sit and Fit	Jet Go!	Nature Cat	C. George	D. Tiger	D. Tiger	Sesame St.	Peg + Cat	DinoTrain	DinoTrain	SuperWI

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AFTERNOON

STATION	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
FOX	11 KFFX	11 Paid	Pat. Court	Divorce	Divorce	Judge Mathis		The People's Court		The People's Court	Mike&M.	Mike&M.
FOX	KPTV	3 The Rachael Ray Show	Wendy Williams			The Real		TMZ Live!		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	5 O'Clock News
CBS	19 KEPR	2 NameG.	Bold & B.	The Talk		Let's Make a Deal		Dr. Phil		Judge Judy	Judge Judy	News
CBS	KOIN	19 News	Bold & B.	The Talk		The Doctors		Dr. Phil		KOIN 6 News at 4 p.m.	News	News
NBC	25 KNDU	6 Ruff-Ruff	Paid	Days of Our Lives		Hot Bench	Hot Bench	Million?	Million?	Ellen DeGeneres	News	NBC News
NBC	KGW	8 KGW New	Paid	Days of Our Lives		FABLife		Ellen DeGeneres		KGW News	KGW News	NBC News
ABC	42 KVEW	4 The Chew		General Hospital		The Doctors		The Rachael Ray Show		Minute	Minute	News
ABC	KATU	5 The Chew		General Hospital		Meredith Vieira		Steve Harvey		KATU News @ 4	News	News
PBS	31 KTNW	Charlie Rose		TestK	Art	C. George	Thomas	Arthur	Nature Cat	Jet Go!	Odd Squad	Wild Kratts
PBS	59 OPB	13 Painting	Jazzy Veg.	Charlie Rose		Nature Cat	Bob Build	Cat/ Hat	Jet Go!	Speaks	WordGirl	Odd Squad

EVENING

STATION	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
FOX	11 KFFX	11 Modern Family "Tableau Vivant"	Modern Family "Baby on Board"	2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls	Coupled "Coupled Up"	Coupled Up "The time has come for the couples to decide if they're leaving 'coupled' or alone. (SF) (N)			FOX News First at Ten	:35 Law:CI A squad investigates high profile cases while focusing on the criminals' motives.	:35 Two and a Half Fish. Yum"
FOX	KPTV	3 6 O'Clock News	Family Feud	Family Feud		Coupled The time has come for the couples to decide if they're leaving 'coupled' or alone. (N)				10 O'Clock News	11 O'Clock News	Ray "Odd Man Out"
CBS	19 KEPR	2 Action News at 6 p.m.	Inside Edition	The Big Bang Theory	The Simpsons "Labor Pains"	NCIS Dr. Taft finds key evidence when he's asked to perform surgery on Gibbs' suspect.	Zoo Mitch digs into Jackson's past to get the answers they need to make the cure. (N)			NCIS: NO A navy captain is murdered while on-air with a radio station & Pride's daughter returns.	Action News at 11:00 p.m.	:35 Stephen Colbert
CBS	KOIN	19 KOIN 6 News at 6	Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Loose Cannons"	Zoo "Jamie's Got a Gun" (N)			NCIS: New Orleans "Radio Silence"	KOIN 6 News/ 11	:35 S. Colbert
NBC	25 KNDU	6 Local News	Family Feud	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	America's Got Talent "Live Show 2" For the first time, three Golden Buzzer go head-to-head in one live show. (N)				Running Wild Julianne Hough joins Bear for an adventure through an African savannah. (N)	Local News	:35 The Tonight Show
NBC	KGW	8 KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at 7	Inside Edition	America-Talent For the first time, three Golden Buzzer go head-to-head in one live show. (N)				Running Wild "Julianne Hough" (N)	KGW News at 11	:35 Tonight
ABC	42 KVEW	4 Extra	Local News at 6:30	Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	Bachelor Former bachelor and bachelorette contestants get a second chance at love. (SP) (N)				Miss Alec threatens for full custody of Vivian, sending Karen into a panic. (N)	Local News at 11 /Kimmel This distinctive late-night talk show features celebrity guests, bands & comedy.	:35 Jimmy Kimmel
ABC	KATU	5 KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Bachelor Former bachelor and bachelorette contestants get a second chance at love. (SP) (N)				Misses "Survival of the Fittest" (N)	KATU News	:35 Jimmy Kimmel
PBS	31 KTNW		PBS NewsHour	BBC World News	Truth Money	The Nazi Games: Berlin 1936 (N)	American Experience "The Boys of '36" (N)			Independent Lens "T-Rex: Her Fight for Gold" (N)	Yellowstone: Land	
PBS	59 OPB	13 Ask This Old House (N)	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		The Nazi Games: Berlin 1936 (N)	American Experience "The Boys of '36" (N)			Munich '72 and Beyond	Age of Champions	

Crews tackle several Washington wildfires

RICHLAND, Wash. (AP) — A wildfire burning toward the Hanford nuclear reservation scorched about 110 square miles of brush and grass Monday as it spread from Yakima County into Benton County.

The blaze, the largest of several wildfires in central and eastern Washington, began Saturday on the U.S. Army's Yakima Training Center and quickly grew in size over the weekend.

But fire lines set overnight and low winds Monday are helping to slow the fire's progression, said Randall Rishe, a spokesman with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. The cause is being investigated.

Crews were able to keep the fire west of Highway 240 by burning up grass and other fuel along there, he said, and away from contaminated areas within the 586-square mile Hanford site north of Richland. Hanford once made plutonium for nuclear weapons and is now undergoing a decades-long cleanup.

"We do not see it progressing any further east," Rishe said. "Our containment lines are in place, the burnout was successful on Highway 240, so the potential for fire

danger in that area is very low at this time.

A section of State Route 24 near Hanford that had been closed also reopened Monday, a state transportation official said.

The Department of Energy said Monday on its website that Hanford work schedules weren't affected at this time.

Meanwhile, fire crews were fighting another blaze that scorched more than 9 square miles of grassland outside of Prosser.

Local crews were able to protect homes threatened by the fire, and all evacuation orders were lifted Monday morning, said Marcus Deyerin, a spokesman with the Northwest Washington Incident Management Team. One outbuilding burned.

Emergency shelters that opened in Yakima County to response to both fires are now closed, said Kent Katlin, a spokesman for Yakima County Emergency Management.

Several campgrounds along the Naches River were evacuated Sunday evening as a wildfire burned in thick forest about 25 miles west of Yakima, said U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Robin DeMario.

10th standoff defendant pleads guilty to conspiracy

PORTLAND (AP) — An Arizona man who took part in a pair of armed standoffs over federal land policy has pleaded guilty to a charge in Oregon and is expected to do the same in Nevada.

Joseph O'Shaughnessy, 44, acknowledged in court Monday that he conspired to prevent U.S. Interior Department employees from doing their jobs after ranchers and others took over a national wildlife refuge this winter near Burns, Oregon.

O'Shaughnessy said he didn't participate in the occupation led by Ammon Bundy but felt a duty to provide security for those protesting federal control of public lands and the imprisonment of two Oregon ranchers.

"I did support their message," he said, becoming the 10th of 26 defendants to plead guilty in Oregon.

Prosecutors will recommend a prison sentence on the low end of a 12- to 18-month range, and it will be served at the same time as the term he could receive for his role in a 2014 armed standoff with federal agents

at a Nevada ranch owned by Ammon Bundy's father, Cliven Bundy, Assistant U.S. Attorney Craig Gabriel said.

Portland defense attorney Amy Baggio confirmed that O'Shaughnessy has a plea deal with prosecutors in Nevada and that resolving the Oregon case was part of the agreement.

O'Shaughnessy's attorney in Nevada, Andrea Luem, did not return a phone message seeking details about the plea there.

Prosecutors in Nevada have described O'Shaughnessy as a midlevel organizer of the confrontation at Cliven Bundy's ranch. The defendants there are accused of conspiring to assault federal officials who were rounding up Bundy's cattle over unpaid grazing fees.

In Oregon, the 16 defendants who have not pleaded guilty are awaiting their day in court. Half of them, including brothers Ammon and Ryan Bundy, are scheduled to stand trial starting Sept. 7. The rest were granted a trial delay until Feb. 14, 2017.

NIGHT OWL

STATION	12 AM	12:30	1 AM	1:30	2 AM	2:30	3 AM	3:30	4 AM	4:30	5 AM	5:30
FOX	11 KFFX	11 AngerM.	:35 Hot In	:05 CR TV	Featuring a selection of products and services.							CR TV
FOX	KPTV	3 Loves Ray	TMZ	Dish	Queens	Raising	Commun.	Cougar T	Paid	Minute	News	Good Day Oregon at 5
CBS	19 KEPR	2 S. Colbert	:35 James Corden (N)	:35 Paid	:05 CBS Overnight News					News	News	News
CBS	KOIN	19 S. Colbert	:35 James Corden (N)	:35 Insider	:05 CBS Overnight News					News	News	KOIN 6 News at 5 a.m.
NBC	25 KNDU	6 Tonight	:35 Seth Meyers (N)	:35 C. Daly	:05 Today Show	Mad Money				News	Wake Up Northwest	
NBC	KGW	8 Tonight	:35 Seth Meyers (N)	:35 C. Daly	:05 Today Show	Mad Money				News	KGW News	KGW News at Sunrise
ABC	42 KVEW	4 :05 Nightl.	:35 FABLife	:35 ABC World News Now							America This Morning	Northwest
ABC	KATU	5 J. Kimmel	:35 Nightl.	:05 Paid	:35 Paid	:05 ABC World News Now				News	News	KATU News Morning
PBS	31 KTNW	Newsline	Mind	The Nazi Games		American Experience		IndLens "T-Rex: Her Fight for Gold"		POV "Iris"		
PBS	59 OPB	13 PBS NewsHour		Antiques Roadshow		Rick Steves "Iran"		Antiques Roadshow		POV "Iris"		BBC News