

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Seasonal precipitation and temperature recorded at a weather station in Alburgh, VT are shown in Table 3. Temperatures were average or above for most of the growing season, with the exception of a colder than normal April. 2015-2016 was a very dry winter wheat growing season (10.9 inches of precipitation less than normal, not including the winter months). While a few months were warmer than average, overall temperatures were very mild and resulted in 5324 growing degree days (GDDs) at a base temperature of 32°F through the growing season, 278 GDDs more than the 30 year average. Many of the heirlooms in the trial were developed in environments much different than New England. Hence, it is important to evaluate the varieties for tolerance to our climate. All varieties were able to survive the winter despite the lack of protective snow cover.

Table 3. Seasonal weather data collected in Alburgh, VT, 2015 and 2016.

Alburgh, VT	Sep-15	Oct-15
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Oro	8-Jun	85.0*	36.5	2.00*
Pride of Genesee	12-Jun	77.0*	40.6*	2.33
Red Chief	5-Jun	93.0*	38.9*	1.67*
Red Russian	11-Jun	76.0*	39.5*	2.33
Relief	7-Jun	74.0	35.9	3.33
Rio	7-Jun	88.0*	34.4	2.67
Triplet	10-Jun	80.0*	36.7	2.33
Turkey Red	6-Jun	92.0*	36.1	1.00*
Ukraine	8-Jun	90.0*	37.3*	0.67*
Wasatch	6-Jun			

borer damage were also observed in a few scattered plots

Figure 1. Yield and crude protein of heirloom winter wheat varieties, Alburgh, VT, 2016. *For yield, varieties with the same letter are not significantly different from one another. There were no significant differences in crude protein.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The UVM Extension Northwest Crops and Soils Team would like to thank Roger Rainville and the staff at Borderview Research Farm for their help with the research trials. We would also like to acknowledge Nate Brigham, Julija Cubins, Kelly Drollette, Abha Gupta, Julian Post, Lindsey Ruhl, Xiaohe “Danny” Yang, and Sara